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4. Cran Court

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

No. 87.—VOL. II.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1842.

PRICE 6d.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THE PROPRIETARY PASSION.

THE world has never yet seen any lasting good come of the numerous attempts which have been made to root out from human nature what God has implanted in it. Experiments undertaken to accomplish this hopeless task have been various enough in kind, but their issue has been invariably the same—complete failure. Your Spartans and stoics of olden times tried their hands in this Quixotic business, and one might have supposed that their defeat was sufficiently signal to have prevented a repetition of the blunder, in this world at least. It is impossible, however, to prescribe the bounds beyond which it is safe to predict that human perversity will not pass. Your monks, priests, and anchorites of the middle ages, fancying that the superior power of Christianity guaranteed success, got up a crusade of extermination against natural passion, and found natural passion strong enough not merely to resist invasion, but to carry back into the hearts of its assailants a war of aggression, and to bind in disgraceful captivity the very parties who had conceived the fine project of destroying it root and branch. And your communarians, or societarians of modern days, who seem intent upon fashioning a new moral world by getting rid of all individuality of feeling, and melting down mankind into one indistinguishable and homogeneous mass, have effected very little hitherto; and their country, we should say, is as yet indebted to them for nothing more than just converting the Queen's English into a barbarous and unmouthable jargon. Wood is wood, however you may carve it; and man is still man, fashion him externally as you will. The one may be cut into beautiful and fantastic images, but it will yet, for all that, rot and burn. The other may be dealt with in the hope of destroying some natural tendency which very wise philosophers indeed have pronounced to be altogether a mistake, and only mischievous; and when communities have been shaped parallelogram-wise, and taught to forget the term which denotes proprietorship, passion for property will be about as strong as ever, and it will go hard if it does not avenge the affront put upon it, by making considerably more free than welcome with what belongs to the republic.

By an instinct which derisively mocks at these and such like attempts to kill it, we love with peculiar fondness what is *our own*. The lone poor widow smells a sweeter perfume, sees a deeper blush, and marks a bonnier stem, in the little rose which stands on her window-sill—the beloved plant which she tends, and trains, and waters every day, than in all the thousands of the brighter beauties which bloom in the public walk hard by. The bullfinch, in that wire cage which adorns the parlour of the village squire, has, for his fair daughter, a gayer plumage, a mellower note, and a thousand-fold more winning ways, than any of the livelier birds which perch, and fly, and sing at pleasure in her father's parterre. We would not give a doit for the schoolboy who did not think his pony the most wonderful pony in the wide world, and his father about the most important man under the sun. Watches are curious pieces of mechanism, very useful, sometimes very ornamental, but it is a vastly different thing to see hundreds of them in a jeweler's or pawnbroker's window, and to have one of them for one's own. And the feeling which these illustrations are intended to set off, and place in relief before the mind's eye of the reader, is affected by what we do as well as by what we have. The charitable matrons in yonder provincial town take a deeper interest in the girls' school which they originated, and which they mainly support, than in the cause of female education throughout the kingdom. Immediate and individual relationship, by a law of nature, brings with it a stronger affection to prompt to the discharge of immediate duty, than that which is more remote. We have a very low notion of that philanthropy which is not more ardent at home than abroad. Providence, which has ordained the superior efficiency of our efforts to serve man within our own neighbourhood, over those which are directed to ameliorate the condition of the race at large, has likewise planted in us those instincts which tend to secure the laying out of our strength where our strength will be most serviceable; and the local good which, if we are so minded, we may attempt with success, always engages a deeper interest than the larger and more general good which, however anxiously we may desire, we can do little else than sigh for and wish.

Now, it cannot be denied, nor ought it to be lost sight of, that the voluntary principle, the congruity of which with man's nature we are attempting to display, harmonises completely with this ineradicable passion of the human breast. The little system of religious means which local benevolence has succeeded in building up, appeals for cheerful support to all those proprietary feelings of our hearts, which prompt us to contemplate with fond affection whatever we can legitimately regard as our own. It is not that we expect to derive from it any selfish advantage. Its maintenance

may ask at our hands for larger sacrifices than it would were we to devolve the responsibility upon others. It may demand constant tending, incessant care, much self-denial. But then it attracts towards itself our warmest sympathies. We come, at last, to identify it with our own fears, hopes, and sense of responsibility. It is part and parcel of our own concerns. Its success is, in its measure, ours—its failure also. It is the embodiment, if we may so speak, of a part of our very selves—the outward efflorescence of an inward idea and feeling which we call ours. And it is to be noted that, like an ailing child, it awakens a tenderer interest, and elicits a more affectionate care, just in proportion as it requires more constant and habitual self-denial. We cannot endure that it should sink, for its loss would be a loss to us of a pleasing, grateful anxiety. And every one may, if he has ever looked about him, have observed the strenuous, and sometimes hopeless, efforts with which men will strive to avert from the small local structure of spiritual means which they have helped to keep up, the destruction which is, nevertheless, seen to be inevitable.

The maintenance of religious means by the state leaves no room for the play of this proprietary passion. Within the establishment, as well as outside of it, there is not a little piety—warm zeal, habits of self-sacrifice, yearnings of benevolence—but they are seldom or never seen developed in a watchful interest over local means of religious instruction. Churches may be in a state of shocking dilapidation, but no one is disposed to contribute more largely to their repair than law will oblige him to do. Clergymen may be starving upon a very scanty income—and every one pities, sympathises, but forgets to subscribe. The truth is, these people are neither more parsimonious nor more unfeeling than others; but the support of religious means is regarded as no business of theirs. They take very little interest in that for which they are not responsible. Just as men who will bestow the utmost care upon their own garden path, and yet never lay out a single farthing upon a public road which leads up to their cottage, and of which, it may be, they alone reap the benefit, or feel the inconvenience; so men, living under the compulsory system, display no forwardness to remedy deficiencies in a system of spiritual mechanism the management of which is taken out of their hands. Accordingly, their affection and zeal run into another and much less useful channel. They waste their energies and their care in looking after the interests of the general system—the cause which goes by the designation of "THE CHURCH." The sacrifices which might have been advantageously made in providing efficient spiritual instruction for the poor of their own neighbourhood, are consecrated to the attempt to bribe poor dissenters into a renunciation of their principles—and at the very moment when, for want of their timely liberality, the rain is pouring into the village sanctuary through the roof, and the elbows of the curate are peeping out of his coat sleeves to imbibe the moisture of the atmosphere, these good, but mistaken, folk are subscribing, and hurrying about from cottage to cottage, to make proselytes from voluntarism, which they describe as inefficient and absurd. What is this but carrying out in the religious world the very tendency which, in the social one, everybody denounces—leaving a wife and family in rags and wretchedness at home, and running about abroad to convert the whole nation to a belief in, and an adoption of, certain party principles?

Now, we are not of those who affect to think that the serious and intelligent members of the national church are devoid of all care about the progress of Christianity. But they are the unconscious victims of a false system—a system based upon the subversion of human instincts and feelings. Were religion left to the exclusive support of voluntary liberality, the zeal which now loses itself in generality would make itself felt in individual and local effort. In every parish it would spend itself in making as efficient and perfect as possible the apparatus of spiritual means, which it would regard as made over to it *in perpetuo*. It would aim less at overbearing the poor than at furnishing them with the most comfortable place of worship, the most suitable minister, and the most appropriate methods of education. It would take a pride in these things—find a proprietary interest in them—and we should have not less money spent, and abundantly more good-will evinced, in providing spiritual means, and those, too, of the most efficacious order, under the voluntary than under the compulsory system.

The church-rate party sustained another defeat in the court of Queen's Bench on Friday week, in a renewed attempt against the churchwardens of Wilsden, who had resisted their former applications with success. Litigation with respect to the Bradford church rate has not, however, yet terminated; but the cause, *Dale v. Pollard* and others, tried at the last Yorkshire assizes, is to be brought before the court of Queen's Bench for final decision as speedily as the forms of law will admit. We understand that it is probable that the costs of all these proceedings will amount to thousands of pounds!

FURTHER TRIUMPHS OF THE CHURCH MILITANT.—Considerable excitement prevailed on Thursday afternoon last, at Lloyd's sale rooms, in Hatfield street, near Blackfriars road, in consequence of its being discovered, that among the lots to be sold by auction was some property that had been seized from several dissenting inhabitants of the parish of Christchurch, Surrey, for church rates. For several years past, many of the above-mentioned parishioners have been contending with the high church party, in their endeavours to put an end to this most impious impost; and although they have not been able as yet entirely to extinguish it, they have, by their vigilant and persevering efforts, reduced it to a mere nominal amount. For, instead of the rates varying as formerly, from fourpence to one shilling in the pound, the rate now distrained for was only for the paltry sum of three farthings in the pound. But small as the sum was, it was refused by several of the inhabitants, who happen to look, not at the amount, but at the principle involved in the compulsory system; and, therefore, rather than violate their consciences and compromise their principles, they have, from time to time, made considerable sacrifices of their property, by allowing the clerical broker to enter their dwellings and carry away their goods to the auction rooms. Among the parties distrained upon at present, the following have come to the knowledge of the writer:—from Mrs Dawes, for the sum of 6s. 3d., half a sack of flour, value about £1 5s.; Mr Apsley Pellat, for the sum of 8s. 9d., four cut decanters, value about £2.; Mr D. Evans, for the sum of 3s. 1d., 24lbs. of soap, value 12s.

CHURCH RATE DEFEAT.—The church party at Sowerby, Yorkshire, twice attempted without effect, in August last, to carry a church rate, at the vestry meeting; they were beaten both by a show of hands, and by a poll on each occasion. Not content with this, another meeting was called for November 10th, which was not so numerously attended by the anti-rate party, it being understood that a poll would be demanded if the rate party had the majority. A poll was demanded by the opposite party, which took place on Tuesday and Wednesday week, and which resulted as follows:—For the rate, 128; against it, 160; majority against it, 32. On the one side there were seven persons who have the title of Esq., besides the minister and other influential men in the township. On the other side, the majority was composed of the labouring population, including handloom weavers, wool-combers, cotton-spinners, &c. The people of Sowerby are determined to oppose, by every constitutional means, the unjust and unscriptural system of church rates.

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.—*Minute with Reference to the Act for the Commutation of Tithe; Yearly Meeting, 1842.*—In transmitting to our subordinate meetings the following declaratory minute in reference to the Tithe Commutation act, we desire that all our dear friends may encourage one another in a faithful and united support of our ancient Christian testimony to the freedom of gospel ministry, and against all ecclesiastical imposition:—

"This meeting has had under its solemn consideration the act for the commutation of tithe in England and Wales, by which provision is made for the conversion of tithe into a rent-charge upon lands, and it is of the judgment that the change has not altered the objectionable character of this impost; it is therefore the duty of friends to bear their testimony faithfully against this claim. We are also of the judgment that friends should not act professionally in making the commutation of tithe, or apportionment of rent-charge, or of any of the expenses arising out of the commutation. And we are concerned to recommend that when friends, either as landowners or otherwise, may think it necessary to attend tithe commutation meetings, they should be very watchful not in word or deed to compromise our testimony against all ecclesiastical demands; and that in reference to all other arrangements connected with the fixing, apportioning, or subsequent dividing the rent-charge, the same watchful care be maintained."

CLERICAL RAPACITY.—The *Aylesbury News* reports a curious case of the effect of money on state-paid ecclesiastics, which occurred at Stony Stratford. The clergyman was engaged to baptize a child of a respectable churchman of the place; the guests were assembled; but in consequence of an unforeseen circumstance, the father of the child sent to the reverend minister to put off the ceremony for one half-hour: his reply was, "No, I'll not christen the child to-day; I have already waited twenty minutes." This unfriendly decision caused consternation to the parents and guests, and as a dernier resort, the father went to persuade his reverence. On his return, he said he had succeeded in persuading his reverence. The child was canonically received within the pale of Christianity; but what will our readers suppose were the persuasives used? The usual fee is 2s. 6d., and 1s. for the clerk: his reverence demanded 10s. for himself, and 1s. extra for Amen, and also demanded payment before the ceremony was performed. This rapacious parson possesses an income of £700 per annum.

PAID CHAPLAINS TO THE UNION HOUSES.—An instance of the arrogance and injustice which flows from the existence of a state-church has lately occurred at Totnes. Some time since, two clergymen in the neighbourhood, offered their services to the union gratuitously, which offer was accepted. Shortly after, a new board of guardians was elected, with a greater leaven of toriyism. They immediately saddled upon the paupers a paid chaplain, and upon the rate-payers the sum of £50 per annum for his salary, notwithstanding the protest of a large majority. The present board, however, being differently constituted, have passed a resolution to dispense with the services of the chaplain at Christmas, upon which a letter was received from the poor law commissioners, inquiring the reason. A statement of the case was adopted at their meeting last week, and a recommendation to the commissioners to dismiss the chaplain. All this forgetfulness of the very existence of dissenters among the rate-payers, must be exceedingly gratifying to their feelings of their own consequence.

CONVOCATION OF THE CLERGY.—We take the following account, with part of their comment on the subject, from the *Western Times*:—

"At a meeting of the clergy of the archdeaconry of Exeter, on the 25th instant, it was agreed that an address should be presented to the bishop, alluding to the evils arising from the want of an authorised ecclesiastical representative body, and requesting his Lordship to bring the same to the notice and earnest consideration of the primate and bishops of the church. The address will be published as soon as it shall have been presented to the Archbishop."

"The following were the resolutions passed:—

"1. That it is expedient and desirable to address a memorial to the Bishop on the subject of convocation.

"2. That the memorial now read, be generally approved, with such verbal alterations as shall meet with the concurrence of the following committee:—The Archdeacon of Exeter, the Dean of Exeter, Archdeacon Barnes, Rev. Canon Bartholomew, Rev. Prebendary Medley, Rev. E. C. Harington, Rev. Harold Browne.

"3. That the memorial so sanctioned, be signed by the Archdeacon of Exeter, and by him, on the part of the clergy, forwarded to the Bishop, at Torquay."

"What may be the present and pressing exigencies of the clerical body which requires this step, as the clergy did not choose to open their doors to the public, we are unable to say. They have the bishops in parliament, and a government which rules chiefly by the influence of the clergy in the elections, and which government it is to be remembered is pledged chin-deep to uphold the interests of the establishment. It cannot be, therefore, from any distrust of them, or any relaxation of vigilance on the part of the bishops, that the working clergy adopt this course. In regard to matters of doctrine and discipline, they have things pretty much their own way in that respect. The vagaries of Puseyism, and the open denunciations of the protestant principle by the protestant state-paid priests, are received with calm indifference by a lukewarm and subservient laity; and the work of deprotestantising the church, whilst at the same time they continue to receive protestant pay with open hands, is going bravely on. We cannot, therefore, divine the cause for this sudden anxiety respecting the church, and this suspicious appeal of the state-paid and state-protected church to its spiritual rather than its temporal chiefs—to the bishops rather than the authorities who make the bishops. We have only one solution for the problem—the clergy begin to suspect Peel!"

A DISSENTER IN OFFICE.—On Sunday week, the right worshipful the Mayor of Portsmouth, who is a dissenter, revived the custom, now nearly obsolete in that borough, of attending divine service in state at St Thomas's church! The whole *posse comitatus* of the corporation, headed by his worship, was joined by the vicar, and proceeded in procession to the church. On their return the mayor proposed a vote of thanks to the vicar for his excellent discourse. Mr Carter is the name of the chief magistrate; and he is a deacon, we understand, of a dissenting church!

On Thursday, a party of upwards of eighty of the inhabitants of Newport dined together at the Albany tavern, to which Mr Churchwarden Pring was invited, as the persevering and uncompromising advocate of civil and religious liberty, and at which a richly embossed tea-service of plate was presented to him. John Cook, Esq., was in the chair, and, in giving the health of Mr Pring, said, though a staunch churchman, he was nevertheless a liberal reformer, and a staunch advocate of civil and religious liberty.

INCOME TAX AND DISSENTING CHAPELS.—The Central Board of Dissenters have ascertained from the proper authorities that the income tax is not chargeable on voluntary collections; and that it is chargeable only on the balance of seat rents, if any, after deduction of minister's stipend and other proper expenses. In very few cases will there be any such surplus, and thus the decision is practically equivalent to an exemption of chapel funds from the operation of the act. This is just as it should be, for we have learnt that, under the old Income Tax act, no duty was charged on any chapel funds.—*Scotsman*.

Dr Bailey, the minister of Queen square chapel, London, is in custody at Bow street, on a charge of having forged an I O U for £2000, with intent to defraud the executors of the late Mr Smith, known to the public as the miser of St Giles's.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BIRMINGHAM CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Some alarm has been expressed respecting the result of the election of delegates at Birmingham. If that meeting was fairly summoned, and free admission given to all who wished to attend it, I do not know that we have any right to find fault. I understand the room would hold 2,000 persons; and that only 1,500 were there consequently none can complain of their inability to be present for want of room. If we sincerely advocate complete suffrage as the only just principle of representation, we must be prepared for such results occasionally as we did not anticipate. As a delegate from Bath, I shall be ready to meet all who have been fairly chosen by the people; and shall have no more objection to meet Mr O'Connor in a public conference than Sir R. Peel has to meet Mr O'Connell in the house of Commons. I shall suspend my judgment of the intentions of Mr O'Connor and his friends, whom I have never seen, until, by their conduct, there has been an opportunity afforded for their principles and temper to develop themselves. If they reason fairly, and discuss the matters which come before the conference with propriety, it appears to me an advantage that they should be present. If they bring forward unsound principles, or if they would defend sound principles by noise and violence, or if they would recommend physical force as a means of obtaining the people's rights, it is for us to point out better principles, or better methods of carrying them into operation, and then to allow the public to judge between us. It is for us to exhibit our own views, and to bring over, if possible, those who differ from us; and this we may do, not by excluding them from our discussions, but by inviting them to fair argument. All who demand equal rights ought to act consistently with their own principles. All who profess the feelings of patriotism should show a feeling of brotherly kindness towards all men of every class; and he is not a faithful enemy to class legislation who would exalt any one class at the expense of any other; nor can he regard all men as brethren who would encourage violence or bloodshed amongst them. We profess to believe that "truth is mighty, and will prevail;" we must not, therefore, in practice deny our profession. Only let there be a fair opportunity given to every man to express and defend his own opinions before a candid audience, and we have no reason to fear the result. Sound principles and peaceable measures will prevail over the mere noise and violence which better become the brute creation than intelligent man. Allow me, therefore, to express a hope that no delegate will absent himself from the conference, in consequence of the expected presence of persons of whom he does not approve, but that all will do their utmost to make this an opportunity for reconciliation between the middle and working classes; so that all who wish to see a fair representation of the people in parliament may unite their efforts, and cordially adopt the most eligible means that can be devised for accomplishing their common object.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

Hinton, near Bath, Dec. 2, 1842.

THOMAS SPENCER.

"THE CHARTISTS AND THE BIRMINGHAM CONFERENCE."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Your paper of last Wednesday contained a paragraph, under the above heading, which "was sent" you "by a correspondent," and which you call "information on this subject." My attention was drawn to it, and I had intended to trouble you with a reply; but as, on a second perusal, I find it nothing but a series of misrepresentations and falsehoods, I shall confine myself to a plain narration of the facts (of which your correspondent is lamentably ignorant, or which he wilfully perverts) concerning the public meetings at which the conference committee was chosen; so that the public may form its own opinion of the matter.

After some conversation on the subject with Dr Black, we thought it desirable that an understanding should be come to, with the different sections of suffrage reformers in the metropolis, with respect to the forthcoming conference; no better means offered themselves to us than the calling together a number of their most active and influential men. To effect this, we had to make inquiries of the active men, with whom we were acquainted, and from them procured the names and addresses of all whom they thought likely to assist.

By this means we obtained a great number of names; and I (having been formerly secretary of Mr Lovett's society) happened to have at home a list of the names of 50 or 60 of those who joined at, or soon after, its formation. We made no further inquiries respecting the Holborn friends. The printer of the circulars did not keep his time, so that it was late in the afternoon before we received them. Mr Whelan, a friend of Dr Black's, and I, as a member of the business committee of "the Parliamentary Reform association," were in the office at the time—we set to work, folded and addressed, in order to send them out that evening, as no time was to be lost. I, having given direction to the persons who were to deliver them, left, as I had business of my own requiring immediate attention. I had not the above-mentioned list with me at the time, and it did not occur to me until after this first and preliminary meeting, when Dr Black and I were talking it over on our way home, that I had not summoned the members of Mr Lovett's association. Dr Black was as much annoyed as myself at the omission; but we determined to make every reparation in our power. The next morning he wrote letters of explanation and apology to several of the most active members of the association, and to Mr Lovett himself, requesting him to explain the cause to his friends, and express his (Dr Black's) regret; at the same time, inviting them to the adjourned and principal meeting, which was to settle all the business proposed to be done. Mr Lovett, in reply, acknowledged himself perfectly satisfied with the explanation, promised to make it known to his friends, and regretted that the issuing of new cards at the hall in Holborn, would prevent his attendance at the adjourned meeting. Care was taken in issuing circulars for the principal meeting that the Holborn friends were not forgotten; and I think I do not exaggerate, when I say that more invitations were sent to the members of their, than any other association. I regret to say, however, that many less attended, and still further, that I should have unwittingly been the cause of any unpleasantness.

This, sir, is a plain statement of the cause of the members of Mr Lovett's association not being invited to the preliminary and least important meeting, though invited in over-proportion to the principal meeting. It is just possible that other reformers, not connected with either of the associations, may feel themselves slighted at not having been invited. If such is the case we have only to plead that every exertion was made to procure a meeting which might insure amicable proceedings in the election of delegates. But there are two facts which I particularly wish to impress on the minds of all who were, or were not, present at the meetings; the first is, that neither of them were mere circular, but public meetings, as all who came (and there were many who had received no circular) were admitted; and all whom we had seen before the meeting were requested to mention it to their friends, to make it as public as possible. The next is, that the only members of Mr Lovett's association whom I saw at the first meeting were Messrs Elt, Pent, Neesom, and Marley, and they were placed by the votes of that meeting on the committee; and Mr Elt was the gentleman who proposed its formation; Mr Pent declining.

I have thus, sir, given you, as far as my memory serves, the reason why the members of Mr Lovett's association were not invited to the preliminary meeting. I have shown you that ample reparation was made for the omission, and admitted as sufficient by Mr Lovett himself, and have to say, in conclusion, that instead of the members of "The National Charter association," and other reformers who are associated with us in the committee, evincing the desire attributed to them by your "correspondent" of "riding rough shod" over every other body but their own, they have manifested, by their conduct and the recommendations sent forth to the reformers of London, that they desire nothing but what is fair and just, and shown themselves worthy of their confidence and support.

If after this explanation, and the desire for a good understanding between all sections of our party, evinced by the recommendation of "the general committee," "any section of reformers" persist in opposing, instead of co-operating with us in a manner becoming reformers, we shall leave the public to decide between us. In a great undertaking like the present, we shall take every step in our power to ensure success of the objects set forth in our address, and in the resolutions of the committee.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

CHARLES WESTERTON,
Secretary of the General Committee.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—I am sorry my letter came to hand too late for insertion in your paper of last Wednesday. In your "Answers to Correspondents," with respect to it, you say, "That the public would be much better pleased with an explanation of two somewhat startling facts, viz., that at a second meeting of reformers, representing the different suffrage associations of the metropolis, a resolution passed at the former meeting with hardly a dissentient, 'That the funds for paying the delegates should be raised and managed in the different localities,' was rescinded by a large majority; and that the proposition 'that elections of the delegates should take place simultaneously,' was negatived, &c. I beg to state in reply that neither 'the resolution,' which you say 'was passed at the former meeting, with hardly a dissentient,' nor 'the proposition,' which you say 'was negatived,' were brought before that meeting at all.

"The resolution" merely appeared in the report (or rather the minutes) of the committee, which were read to the second meeting; at which it was proposed by Messrs Wheeler and Fussell, to be added to the address, which was agreed to. "The proposition" was never entertained by either of the public meetings, and only by the committee about a week ago; when it appeared, with their other recommendations, in one of the columns of the *Evening Star*.

I cannot, therefore, sir, see anything in the "two facts," which can be at all "startling to the public;" and have no doubt it will be satisfied with this, the only explanation which I can give of them.

In conclusion, I have only one thing to say of your "private correspondent," which is that he has been anything but a faithful reporter.

I am, sir, respectfully yours,

CHARLES WESTERTON.

Kingsbridge, December 5th, 1842.

[The following letter to the Chairman of the Anti-corn-law League so fully bears out the sentiments we expressed on their policy on a former occasion, that we insert it entire.]

To George Wilson, Esq., Chairman of the Anti-corn-law League.

DEAR SIR—I duly received the address and circular of the Anti-corn-law League, requesting assistance in raising £50,000.

I should be glad to assist in any plan, having for its object, and likely to effect, the benefit of the working people; but I believe, for several reasons, it will be in vain to attempt a subscription in this district.

The depressed condition of the farmers, the poverty of their labourers, the fears entertained by the shopkeepers and middle classes of these towns,

that, by subscribing to such a fund, they would give offence to the small gentry and clergy, who constitute the aristocracy of the district, all combine to render the attempt impracticable. Mr Milner Gibson, whom the Manchester manufacturers have chosen to represent their opinions and energies in parliament, and who is a country gentleman of this county, can inform you that these statements are correct.

The poor rates, during the coming winter, will be enormous—the distress already begins to be fearful—the working people are full of discontent; and, I apprehend, the amount the League have undertaken to raise, must be drawn principally from the pockets of the rich men—the merchant princes of the manufacturing districts. If the members of the League shall be disposed to call the farmers, or others who do not enter into their present views under the existing pressure of universal distress, either "fools or knaves," they must remember that circumstances materially affect men's judgments and feelings; and not longer ago than 1837, one of the best men of the League, and the most intelligent in Manchester, on being requested to assist in agitation for the public welfare, spoke the sentiments of the manufacturers, when he said, "We cannot agitate the people here if we would. Every one who likes to ask for it has full work, and is well paid. We have cheap bread. We have had nearly annual parliaments. We have optional church rates, and the people won't be agitated." It must also be remembered, that the corn laws, with all their withering and blighting effects, were then, as now, in full operation. It is of no avail to tell the tenant-at-will farmers, that they are slaves for voting at their landlords' bidding, and that their interests are opposed on the subject of the corn laws; the competition for land is such as to bring them under the direct control of their landlords, and to work out the natural result of the £50 clause, which was foreseen and intended by the aristocracy, both whig and tory, at the passing the Reform bill. Looking to the representation of our own county, as illustrating the condition of many others, and knowing as we do the power given them by the Reform bill, the aristocracy can successfully defend "the craft whereby they get their gains," so that we cannot see a reasonable hope of accomplishing any useful result, by the course of agitation adopted by the League. At the passing the Reform bill, three rotten boroughs were extinguished in this county; eleven members were apportioned for its future representation; and of the present sitting members, the whole are advocates of those corn laws which have worked so much misery to every class but one. With a parliament so constituted, it appears hopeless to look for any change of the corn laws, save such occasional modifications as may be effected by the recurring pressure of distress. That benevolent and sagacious man, Colonel Thompson, has stated, that when, in 1837, Mr Hume, on behalf of the middle and working classes, attempted to connect the poor law and the corn law question, he was received by the House of Commons with indignation, little short of anything but blows, and with sounds that had in them a touch of the New Zealander; and he admonishes the people never to present themselves again before the 600 sworn land-owners and poor rate owners, until they send a flag of truce—adding, they are your natural and unchangeable enemies, and no mistake; lest there should be any doubt about it, they have declared their interest on oath—they will grind you to the last, as all men grind what it is their interest to grind. Hope nothing from parliament—the House of Commons, instead of being the machine you dreamed of, is only a cushion to blunt the impulses of popular necessities.

So long, then, as the present instrument of legislation remains, I see not how the people can escape those monopolies, by which an ancient aristocracy has acquired and constituted its unjust and destructive privileges—privileges alike ruinous to the classes whom they foster into habits of vicious indulgences, and of contemptuous isolation from those, at the cost of whose temporal and moral degradation, such privileges are maintained.

I am, dear sir, with great respect, yours,

JOHN CHILDS.

Bungay, Nov. 21, 1842.

THE COMPLETE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

A meeting of the council was held at the office of the Union, Waterloo street, Birmingham, on Monday. Letters were read from B. Robinson, Huddersfield; H. Wells, Plymouth; Rev. W. Leask, Chapmanslade, near Frome; Rev. W. Stokes, West Bromwich; L. Snelling, Tonbridge; H. G. Rhodes, Sheffield; H. Edgar, Coventry; Thomas Beggs, Nottingham; G. W. Anstie, Devizes; Alex. Hogg, Hawick; J. Blakemore, Ludlow.

A sub-committee was appointed to revise the clauses of the draft bill to be submitted to the conference. The following resolution was passed:—

"That the secretary be instructed to prepare the cards of membership for next half-year; and that when ready, he inform those friends who now have cards on sale, that they must be returned to the office as soon as possible, and that the new cards are ready to be issued."

The resignation of John Bright, Esq., of Rochdale, as a member of the council, was read. A nomination to supply the vacancy will be made at the next council meeting. It was unanimously resolved—

"That a special meeting of the council be held on Monday, the 19th instant, to attend to business connected with the conference."

We insert the following letter from Mr Leask, who has undertaken the superintendence of one of the districts:—

"DEAR SIR—I received the instructions and plans sent from Birmingham two days since, and I have written and despatched twenty-four letters to as many different places in my district since then. On all my correspondents I have urged the necessity of returning delegates to the projected conference. I have also suggested the propriety of forming local unions; and, as a preliminary step to this, hearing an address from one of the lecturers on the rules and objects of the Union. I hope ere long, therefore, that some good may be effected, even in places where adverse influences are strong. I have conversed with several gentlemen who have hitherto been strenuous whigs; but, won by the dignified espousal of principle which is the distinguishing feature of our movement, they are now fully prepared to embrace the views of the Complete Suffrage Union. These men look with peculiar anxiety to the result of the conference. Amongst the most prominent agencies in effecting this change the *Nonconformist* occupies no secondary place. The influence of that newspaper is really greater than many of its admirers think. The secret of its success amongst intelligent men is, I apprehend, its consistent avoidance of appeals to the passions, and its calm, firm, dignified, and masterly treatment of great principles. It speaks to the mind, and it gets a hearing. I have endeavoured to increase its circulation, and not without some success. And I believe the friends of the Union would do essential service to this cause by doing likewise.

"Yours respectfully,

"Chapmanslade, Frome, 1 Dec., 1842.

WM LEASK."

LONDON.

The committee, elected between the Metropolitan Parliamentary Reform association and the National Charter association, held a meeting on Friday evening. After the reading of reports from the different boroughs, which were stated to be highly satisfactory, Dr Black moved, and Mr Fussell seconded, the adoption of a list of candidates by the committee, to be proposed at the different boroughs. This list divides

the 28 delegates, which are to be returned by the parliamentary boroughs, as follows:—

Members of the Charter association	16
Ditto Parliamentary Reform ditto	4
Ditto Complete Suffrage Union	2
Ditto National association	6

SOUTHWARK.—On Thursday night, a meeting of the electors and others connected with the borough of Southwark took place at the Three Tuns tavern, St Margaret's hill, for the purpose of adopting measures to enable the reformers of all classes of the borough to co-operate with the great meeting which is to take place at Birmingham, on the 27th instant, for the purpose of petitioning parliament for the extension of the suffrage. It was agreed that a requisition embodying the above opinions should be drawn up, and be taken about for signatures; and that it should be presented to Mr Pritchard, the newly-elected high bailiff, at the beginning of the week, requesting him to call a public meeting of the electors for the purpose specified.

LAMBETH.—A meeting of the reformers of Lambeth took place on Friday evening, at Blackmore's coffee-house, China walk, for the purpose of making arrangements for a public meeting to elect delegates to the Birmingham conference; J. Duncan, Esq., in the chair. It was resolved that a public meeting should be held at the Montpelier tavern, Walworth road, to make the necessary arrangements for the election of four delegates for the borough of Lambeth. At a meeting on Monday last, the chartists of Lambeth appointed Messrs Knight and Lee as a deputation to make arrangements for coalescing with the National Reform association of this borough in the appointment of delegates.

WESTMINSTER.—A preliminary meeting of Westminster reformers took place on Friday evening, at Standard's hotel, at which was formed the nucleus of a committee for conducting a public meeting to elect delegates to the forthcoming conference at Birmingham, after which the committee adjourned to Wednesday evening.

MARYLEBONE.—A meeting was held on Wednesday night at the Feathers' tavern, Warren street, Tottenham Court road, to take into consideration the forthcoming conference of reformers of all shades, to be held at Birmingham, when twenty-three persons formed themselves into a committee (with power to add to their number), to carry out the objects of the address issued on the 16th November, in collecting funds to elect members to send to the conference.

BATH.—**ELECTION OF DELEGATES.**—On Wednesday evening, a public meeting was held at the Complete Suffrage association room, in Church street, for the purpose of electing delegates to the Birmingham conference. The chair was taken by Mr Alderman Crisp, and after some discussion, it was moved by Mr Sidwell, that two individuals should be elected by the meeting for the purpose alluded to. On the motion of Mr Orchard, seconded by Mr Cox, the Rev. Thomas Spencer was nominated as one of them; and on the motion of Mr Twite, seconded by Mr Bolwell, Mr J. Hopkins was named as the other. Both motions were carried without opposition.

CHELtenham.—**ELECTION OF DELEGATES.**—On Monday evening last, a public meeting was held at the spacious Promenade rooms, Regent street, Cheltenham, for the purpose of electing delegates to the forthcoming conference. The room was crowded in every part, and the meeting was one of the most enthusiastic ever held in this aristocratic town. Augustus Newton, Esq., barrister at law, was in the chair. He read the requisition to the churchwarden, convening the meeting; and in a clear and eloquent manner detailed the object of the conference. The first resolution was proposed by Mr Goding, secretary to the Cheltenham Complete Suffrage association, and seconded by Mr Leach, and was as follows:—"That this meeting being of opinion that class legislation is unjust, both in principle and detail, alike contrary to the spirit and genius of Christianity, the dictates of reason, and the ancient principles of the British constitution, deem it expedient to secure its abolition, by a peaceable, yet energetic and determined agitation, for a full, free, and fair representation of the people." The following resolution was next proposed by Mr Payne, and seconded by Mr Glennister:—"That, considering the present state and aspect of public affairs, this meeting is of opinion that the proposition to hold at Birmingham, on the 27th inst, a conference of delegates chosen publicly by the people, is both timely and judicious; and that the election of delegates, to represent this town at the said conference, be forthwith proceeded with." Both resolutions were carried unanimously. Mr Nourse proposed, and Mr Davis seconded, the nomination of Mr W. Hollis, president of the Cheltenham Complete Suffrage association, as a delegate to the conference, which was carried unanimously, amidst the most enthusiastic cheering. Mr Smith proposed, and Mr Norris seconded, the nomination of Mr W. Milsom (chartist); Mr Hollis proposed, and Mr Milsom seconded, A. Newton, Esq., as a delegate; all of whom were unanimously carried. Other resolutions were adopted, and a vote of thanks having been proposed by R. Godwin, Esq., to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

BANBURY.—**ELECTION OF DELEGATES.**—On Monday last, a meeting took place in the Guildhall, Banbury, by permission of the Mayor, to elect delegates to the Birmingham conference. Mr Cockerill was elected chairman, but although the attendance was numerous it was deemed advisable to adjourn it until the following evening. On this occasion there was a large attendance; and, on the motion of Mr Philp, in a speech much applauded, and seconded by Mr French, a resolution agreeing to elect three delegates was carried unanimously. The following persons were then proposed and seconded:—Messrs Edmund French, Robert Cockerill, Robert Kemp Philp, George Baxter, John Boswell, James Perry. The election fell unanimously upon Messrs Cockerill, Philp, and French. The result was hailed with loud cheers.

COLCHESTER.—**ELECTION OF DELEGATES.**—On Tuesday evening last, Mr Vincent addressed a meeting in the Bible room, Lion walk, Colchester. The great enthusiasm exhibited in the cause advocated by the lecturer, added to the overflowing attendance, has distinguished this meeting as unparalleled in the annals of political excitement in this town. Mr Pinkuss was called to the chair, and briefly introduced Mr Vincent. Mr Vincent was received with great cheering. He

gave an explanation of the great principles he had come forward to advocate in a long and very happy address, interspersing his lecture with fitting humorous illustrations and references to the circumstances of the town; and concluding with a most eloquent appeal to the

audience on the necessity of embracing those principles by which alone the liberties of the people can be permanently secured. The meeting then proceeded to elect delegates. Mr J. B. Harvey, printer, of Colchester, the Rev. E. Miall of London, the Rev. Mr Allsop of Birmingham, and Mr W. Lovett of London, their compliance being obtained, were appointed delegates to the conference. Mr Harvey stated his readiness to accept the office imposed upon him. Mr D. Morris, surgeon, said that though, when he entered the room, he could not adhere to the Complete Suffrage association in all its principles, yet he was compelled to confess that, from what he had heard from Mr Vincent, the arguments were of that powerful character that it would be utterly impossible to answer them. Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, and to Mr Vincent, and the meeting separated.

WESTBURY, WILTS.—**ELECTION OF DELEGATES.**—A meeting for the election of delegates to represent this town in the Birmingham conference took place in the Union rooms, on Monday evening last. Mr Taylor in the chair. Mr Brice having been called upon by the chairman, read the circular issued by the council of the Complete Suffrage Union. Mr Clarke then delivered an address explanatory of the objects of the Birmingham council in calling the conference, the duties of delegates, and so forth. Mr John Collins of Birmingham, and Mr Taylor of Westbury, were then proposed by Mr Brice, and seconded by Mr Jones. Mr Clarke spoke in very high terms of Mr John Collins. The motion was then put and carried unanimously, and a subscription was entered into for the payment of traveling expences to Birmingham.

PAISLEY.—**ELECTION OF DELEGATES.**—On Tuesday evening, the inhabitants met in Mr Cairn's church, George street, which was filled to suffocation, for the purpose of electing delegates to the National Complete Suffrage conference to be held at Birmingham. Mr M'Nair was elected chairman by a large majority. The meeting was one of the noisiest ever held in Paisley, for the O'Connorite chartists, led by Messrs Campbell, Young, &c., tried by every means to put a stop to the meeting by moving an adjournment, another chairman, and other candidates, which were all lost by overwhelming majorities. The most abominable personalities and disgusting noises were kept up for a length of time, but the disturbers of the meeting were ultimately put down. After a few preliminaries had been disposed of, the Rev. P. Brewster, Mr Cochrane, Mr Joseph Corbett of Birmingham, and Mr W. C. Pattison of Glasgow, were elected. Against Mr Corbett the chartists pitted Mr W. Campbell, and two or three votes were taken on the subject before that party could be convinced that their candidate was in a minority. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Mr Brewster, Messrs Campbell, Young, Kennedy, and various other parties. All the candidates of the complete suffrage party were opposed by the chartists, but without avail. All are highly delighted at the successful termination of this our first public meeting, since the Complete Suffrage association, which has now upwards of 5,000 members, was formed.

GLASGOW.—**ELECTION OF DELEGATES.**—The public meeting of the inhabitants of Glasgow, called by the Complete Suffrage association, to elect delegates to the approaching conference in Birmingham, was held on Tuesday evening in the City hall. As was to be expected, from the appeals of Feargus O'Connor on the subject in the *Northern Star*, and the previous exertions of his followers in this quarter, the objects of the complete suffragists were completely frustrated. The hall was crowded in every part; and the noise and clamour of the contending parties was anything but edifying or agreeable. The business commenced by the proposal, by the complete suffragists, of Dr Eneas M'Donnell as chairman. The chartists proposed, as an amendment, Mr George Ross. After considerable noise and confusion—during which the vote had to be taken twice to satisfy all parties, and in doing which about half an hour was spent—it was agreed that Mr Ross had the majority. Mr Rodgers amid hisses, cheering, and howling, introduced the business of the meeting. Mr Adams then proposed six delegates, who were to stand by the charter, name included. Mr Macfarlane proposed, as an amendment, the resolutions of the Complete Suffrage association passed at their last meeting, which were given in our last number. The various speakers, on the one side and on the other, were assailed with mingled hisses and cheers. At half-past twelve an adjournment was proposed, but rejected by the O'Connorites. At length the latter party allowed the vote to take place. The Chairman put the different motions, when the O'Connor party carried theirs by considerable majorities. They then proceeded to elect their men, when Messrs John Colquhoun, Samuel Kidd, James Adam, Aucott of Gallowgate, Moir of do., and Councillor Anderson of the first ward, were all but unanimously elected. Messrs Ross, and Proudfoot, and Gillespie were nominated, but refused the honour. The complete suffrage party claimed a hearing upon the merits and character of these candidates, but this the opposition refused. Seeing the O'Connorites had carried their instructions, the Complete Suffrage association did not propose their candidates, but allowed the other party to have it all their own way. The names of those intended to have been brought forward by them were:—Bailie Anderson of the second ward, Councillor Turner of Thrushgrove, J. P. Reid, Esq. of Washington mills, Messrs Peter Johnston, M. Macfarlane, and Charles M'Ewan. The proceedings did not terminate until near 1 o'clock, about which hour the O'Connor party proposed a resolution, that if funds were not raised, instead of six, they should have power to send only one or two delegates.

THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE.—In addition to the accounts of the actual election of delegates, we have received the following intelligence:—At Huddersfield, Mr Benjamin Robinson, and Mr H. Edwards, will be nominated as delegates on the part of the Complete Suffrage association; and Mr J. Bray, and Mr G. Clayton, by the chartist committee. It is expected all four will be elected without opposition. The committee of the Bridport Complete Suffrage association have recommended Mr Charles Clarke, the lecturer, as a candidate for the borough, and a meeting was to be held on Monday for his election as delegate. A meeting was to be held at Sunderland, in the course of this week, to elect two delegates. Mr Thomas Thompson, solicitor, secretary of the Complete Suffrage Union of that town, Mr Williams, and Mr Charles Connor, of Bishop Auckland, are the persons likely to be nominated. Mr Connor is intended to be put forward in opposition to Mr Williams, by a section of chartists meeting at the east end of the town. The grounds of opposition have not transpired, they may be guessed at.



NORWICH.—On Wednesday last, Mr Vincent met with a most enthusiastic reception in this city. The meeting was held in the bazaar, and although only a short notice of the meeting had been given, upwards of 1200 persons were present, including many of the most respectable and influential of the reform party. Upon the platform, amongst others, were four dissenting ministers, the Rev. J. Dryden, Rev. A. Reed, Rev. W. Brock, and the Rev. E. New. Mr Dowson, solicitor, was unanimously called to the chair. Mr Vincent then presented himself, and was loudly cheered for several minutes. Mr Vincent demonstrated the duties of government, the right of the governed to control their rulers; depicted the effects of class legislation; proved the necessity of obtaining a radical reform in the House of Commons; and illustrated the principles of the "Union" in a manner that drew from his audience repeated cheers. His speech occupied two hours and a quarter, and was listened to with an interest never surpassed by any public assembly in Norwich. All was unanimity and good feeling, and all parties appeared delighted. Mr Vincent's second lecture took place on Friday, and was attended by a still larger number of persons, though a charge of 2d was made for admission. Of these lectures a correspondent says, "We had two meetings, which, for enthusiasm and numbers, were not surpassed even in the most excited period of the Reform bill. Mr Vincent's style of address is calculated to raise the moral feelings, as well as inform the judgments of his auditors; a high tone of religious principle being amongst their chief excellencies. Mr Vincent holds us out the hope of another visit in the spring, which will, I doubt not, be welcomed by thousands in Norwich. I have heard of several cases of conversion to complete suffrage principles from hearing the lectures; one in the case of a tory, who said he really could not find fault with anything that Mr Vincent said."

HARWICH.—On Monday last, Mr Vincent lectured in this borough on the principles of complete suffrage. The new reading room was engaged for the occasion, which was crammed to suffocation. Mr W. Miall was called to the chair. Mr Vincent discussed the principles of complete suffrage with his usual ability and eloquence, and at the conclusion, addressed a few very well-timed observations to the audience on the sullied character of the town, in the following terms—

Men of Harwich, exclaimed Mr Vincent, one more observation before I leave you. Be not angry with me for holding up the faults of our common country fully before you. I pretend not to say that the people of this great land are void of great wickedness. True, much has been cast upon you, but still had you not accepted debasing offerings made to you, your state would not have been so deeply degraded. Talk of our own free country! how can a state be free when her citizens even in her smallest boroughs are corrupt? How can a nation be great and glorious when her citizens are approached by bribes? Oh! if you knew what dignity you would give to this cause of ours—to our common country—to human nature—by being virtuous, you would soon forsake those foul deeds that attach to your name. Commence the good work—begin to pile together the materials for the erection of a building, within whose portals you shall one day reside with justice and in peace. Quit hold upon the filthy system which covers all with infamy who touch it, and uniting your energies with those of men who look for the regeneration and liberty of England, aid in the performance of an achievement which the present age shall bless, and for which your children's children shall indeed be thankful.

The mild expostulation was well received, and throughout the whole course of the lecture the applause that was elicited showed that the truths Mr Vincent enunciated had made a favourable impression. A vote of thanks to Mr V. was carried with acclamation.

LYNN REGIS.—A lecture was delivered by Mr Henry Vincent, on the principles of complete suffrage, on Friday night, in Mr Cook's large room, Broad street, Lynn Regis (kindly lent for the occasion), to an attentive audience, amounting to about 800 persons. To attempt even a faint outline of Mr Vincent's address were, to us, almost a hopeless task. Suffice it to say, that having never heard Mr V. before, we had, from report, formed an opinion of him in our own minds, by a very high standard of excellence. But last night we found that our previously formed judgment was entirely at fault. To say that Mr Vincent delighted his audience, would scarcely describe the effect produced—he electrified them! And we are free to confess, that to such bursts of soul-stirring eloquence—to such thrilling truths—to such fervid appeals—to such bold denunciations—it never was before our lot to listen. We were pleased to observe a fair sprinkling of the middle class present; and we more particularly noticed the Rev. J. T. Wignu, the highly respected and talented pastor of the baptist congregation in this town; who, in seconding a vote of thanks to the lecturer, avowed himself a complete suffragist. We hail that avowal with unmixed delight, because we anticipate everything from his known talents and industry. Mr Vincent left here on Saturday morning for London; and on Wednesday next, we shall proceed to the election of four representatives to the forthcoming conference at Birmingham.—*From a Correspondent.*

TAVISTOCK.—On Thursday evening last a meeting was held at the Mechanics' Institution, Tavistock, for the purpose of forming a Complete Suffrage association, and of adding members to the National Complete Suffrage Union at Birmingham. Mr John Pearse having been called to the chair, and Mr Feaston having read the objects and rules of the Union, it was moved by the Rev. H. Solly, seconded by Mr Feaston, and carried with only one dissentient:—

"That an association be now formed in Tavistock, for the purpose of obtaining the principles and necessary details of complete suffrage, in order that the whole people may be fairly represented in parliament."

The principles and details were then read to the meeting.

Moved by E. Pearse, Esq.; seconded by Mr Feaston—

"That every just, peaceful, legal, and constitutional means be used for carrying these objects into effect, and only such."

Moved by Mr Snell; seconded by Mr Martin—

"That all persons should be invited to become members of this society who are favourable to the great principle of political freedom—all who belong to every description of political or other association for improving and benefiting the people; as well as persons of all creeds, classes, and opinions, who are desirous of seeing their country enlightened, virtuous, and free."

Moved by Mr John Seecombe; seconded by Mr Oswald—

"That this society shall recommend, and endeavour to carry out, the great principles of peace, temperance, and education."

Moved by E. Pearse, Esq.; seconded by Mr Horswill—

"That the funds necessary for working the society shall be raised by issuing half-yearly cards of sixpence each to members, or annual cards of five shillings each. Donors of five pounds and upwards to be honorary members."

Moved by E. Pearse, Esq.; seconded by Mr Yellond—

"That Mr John Pearse be elected treasurer, and the Rev. H. Solly secretary of the society."

The latter gentleman stated that, with the sincerest desire to serve the society, it would be impossible for him to accept the office they kindly offered him, otherwise than as a provisional secretary, till the

society was organised. It was then agreed that a preliminary meeting should be held on the 5th, to take measures for calling a public meeting on the 12th, to elect a delegate to the Birmingham conference; and thanks having been voted to the chairman, the meeting, which was very well attended, adjourned.

DARLINGTON.—On Thursday night, a meeting was held at Mr Johnson's Temperance hotel, for the purpose of forming a Complete Suffrage association. A chairman having been appointed, Mr Boot was requested to give an account of his mission, he having been deputed to wait on several gentlemen in the town, who were favourable to the principles. Mr Boot gave a clear and consecutive account of his interviews with the gentlemen whom he had waited upon, and it is satisfactory to state, that in almost every instance they were favourable to the cause; and expressed their determination, not only to become members, but to do all in their power to put those principles into practice which they believe are essential for the permanent prosperity of the country. After touching on several other topics, Mr B. concluded by moving the following resolution—"That this meeting do form itself into a Complete Suffrage association." Mr A. Gowland seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried. They then proceeded to the election of a council, and after transacting other business the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday night, when the necessity of sending a delegate to the Birmingham conference will be taken into consideration.

Edward Davy, Esq., of Crediton, has been appointed by the council at Birmingham, superintendent of the western district of the National Complete Suffrage Union. The district embraces Dorset, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall.

EDINBURGH.—On Wednesday last, a requisition signed by 658 inhabitants of the city, was presented to the Lord Provost, desiring him to call a public meeting on Monday, first, for the purpose of electing delegates to the reform conference, which is to be held at Birmingham on the 27th of the present month. His lordship declined to comply with the requisition, but it is only justice to say that he stated his objections in the most courteous manner. The meeting has been called by placards issued by the Complete Suffrage committee, and is expected to be well attended, and to prove most harmonious. Each party is to propose their respective candidates.

GENERAL NEWS.

FOREIGN.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Caledonia*, Captain Lott, arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday night from Halifax, after a passage of 10 days and 19 hours from that place, which she left on the night of the 19th. She sailed from Boston on the 16th, and has only brought 24 passengers.

The elections for the state of New York had been decided. The democratic party had triumphed by large majorities. The result of the New York election, in particular, had had a favourable effect on the stocks of the state, which were in demand, and had increased in value. The democratic party had triumphed in several other states. The feeling of the country appears to be strongly in favour of the present government; and as the existing executive and the new members are known to be favourable to a low tariff, if there be no alteration made in the tariff passed last session, during the ensuing meeting of congress, there will be a sweeping change in the subsequent one. The correspondent of the *Chronicle* points out the importance of these elections, in connexion with the national credit:—

"The late elections throughout the United States are destined to produce a revolution in the whole financial policy of the several states. In a former article we stated the prevailing feeling among capitalists, in relation to the New York election, was a fear lest the party who went to the people on the question of repealing the malt tax, and of extending the state debt in aid of speculations facetiously called public improvements, would be successful, and thereby give a death-blow to American credit. The election is past, giving a majority greater than ever in favour of paying the taxes, and against increasing the debt. The result has been, to cause capital to go into New York stocks, and consequently to improve their prices."

Another authority says,

"There is evinced throughout the country a general disposition to economise, and get out of debt. While this has materially checked the sale of foreign goods and manufactures, good effects are already apparent. Public and manufacturing stocks are no longer created from day to day, and the moderate accumulation which is constantly going on is gradually absorbing the floating stocks. If the money market continues easy, this will, ere long, cause an appreciation of value."

President Tyler had published an official statement of the ratification of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States.

Mr Dickens' "American Notes" had been published in New York by several rival establishments, and distributed, in immense numbers, price 1s., over every part of the country the day after their receipt. One newspaper, the *New World*, also published the entire work at twelve and a-half cents (6½d), and immediately sold 35,000 copies. The work is very unpopular, it is stated, though every one is anxious to see it. The correspondent of the *Chronicle* corrects Mr Dickens in his charges against the American press—

"It is not my intention to make any comment on the book, except only to assure Mr Dickens that he is entirely too sweeping with regard to the American press. That there are a few papers that indulge in violence and scurrility, is too true; but they are very few indeed. They form the exception, and not the rule. If Mr Dickens had remained here long enough, he would have found nothing worthy of severe condemnation in the great bulk of the American press, the infirmities of human nature and the bias of party considered."

The *Daily Evening Bulletin*, a Boston paper, supplies the following interesting information of the prospects of supply for the English market:—

"The first shipments of provisions to England under the new English tariff were the surplus of last year—much of them injured by long keeping and exposure to the heat of a southern sun. The butter, cheese, lard, pork, and beef, which are now in preparation for the British market, packed in cool weather, will prove greatly superior, and when the English once get the taste of our superior corn-fed pork, it will command a ready sale, and a good price. We learn that one or two English establishments have been lately opened at Cincinnati, to pack expressly for the British markets. Such is the abundance of corn and grain at the west, that we may expect at Boston this winter large supplies from western New York, and from this port it may be shipped with great dispatch, and at a moderate expense, to England. Boston continues to be the greatest beef market of the Union. Within the last three weeks, about 15,000 head of cattle have been sold at Brighton, and unusually large quantities will be packed for exportation."

From Canada the dates are to the 12th November. Sir Charles Bagot was dangerously ill; indeed it was reported at Quebec that he had died. When the steamer sailed he was slowly recovering. Shocks of an earthquake had been experienced at Three Rivers, Quebec, and other places in Canada. Mr E. G. Wakefield had carried his election for Beauharnois county, by a majority of 737 over his opponent Col.

Scraper. It appears by an official return that the present year has been very unpropitious to the trade of Canada. The alteration of the timber duties has had the good effect of directing the attention of the Canadians to an extension of their agriculture, and preparations on rather an extensive scale are said to have been made for next season. The progress of the public works has been somewhat accelerated, and when the vast undertakings now being carried on are completed, they are likely to prove of incalculable benefit to the country.

The news from Mexico, Texas, and Yutucan is scanty, and confined principally to flying rumours. One account states that the Texians had been routed by the Mexicans, about forty miles south of San Antonio; while another account details the taking possession of Champoton, six leagues from Campeachy, by the Mexicans, who were waiting for a force, amounting to 3,000 men, from Vera Cruz, before attacking the Yucatanos. The latter, however, though they cannot bring a large force into the field, are said to be by no means dispirited, and are prepared to meet the invaders. It was stated at Philadelphia that France and England have offered to mediate between Mexico and Texas. The United States has made that offer, backed by a squadron dispatched to Vera Cruz. It is hoped by every lover of peace, that some mediator will succeed in effecting a pacification.

Accounts from Cuba state that David Turnbull, Esq., late British consul at Havana, had been arrested and imprisoned at Givara. It appears that Mr Turnbull repaired thither in a British armed vessel of small size, and demanded the liberation of certain English blacks, and all Africans imported on certain estates since 1821, with liberty to go to said estates in quest of them. He and the captain and crew of the schooner were imprisoned in the fort, and Mr Turnbull was to be sent with the whole matter, for adjudication by the governor-governor at Havana. To Mr Turnbull's book, relative to Cuba, and his fearless exposure of the planters, and the state of society in the island, may be traced the outrage in question, which will, no doubt, form the subject of ulterior steps on the part of this country.

From Honduras an account had been received of the deposing and assassination of General Morasan, the governor of the state of Costa Rica, about the middle of September. Whilst the Governor was engaged in the capital, making arrangements to invade Nicaragua, to put down the insurgents there, the inhabitants of his own state rose upon him, defeated his troops, and put him to flight. He was overtaken a few leagues distant, tied up, and shot. His men were all captured or killed.

A French squadron has taken possession of the Marquesas group of islands, landed troops on them, and fortified two of the largest. The commander of the fleet had sealed orders, which he did not open till he arrived off the islands.

The Great Western steam ship arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday, having been twelve days and a half from New York. She had twenty-nine passengers, and brought news two days later than the Caledonia, but of no great importance.

CHINA.

The Emperor has accepted the treaty of the 29th of August, and has engaged to ratify it as soon as he learns that her Britannic Majesty has ratified it. This is a point of etiquette observed in China. He proposes to send an ambassador to London. Half of the first instalment has been paid, and is sent home by the Blonde. The British naval and military forces were still at Nankin. A steamer has come directly from Nankin to Suez, to bring this news. It had on board Major Malcolm, secretary of the English Legation. The English fleet will winter at Chusan, where vast works are undertaken to drain and make it healthy.

INDIA.

The express in anticipation of the overland mail was received from Marseilles on Sunday night. It brings intelligence from Bombay to the 1st of November, and entirely confirms the gratifying news brought by the late intermediate mail.

The proceedings of the British armies in the neighbourhood of Cabul have been eminently successful. The whole of the British prisoners have been liberated from the hands of the Affghans. Their number was 31 officers, 9 ladies, and 12 children, with 51 European soldiers, 2 clerks, and 4 women; making in all 109 persons, who had suffered the horrors of captivity from the 10th of January to the 21st and 27th of September.

On the arrival of General Nott's division at Cabul, the resolution adopted by the British government, to destroy all the Affghan strongholds, was carried into execution. An expeditionary corps of about 4000 men was sent to demolish the strong forts of Istalif and Chareekar. On the 29th of September, General M'Caskill and Brigadiers Tulloch and Stacy, who commanded this force, were met by a strong body of Affghans, led on by Ameen Oola and sixteen of their most determined chiefs, who sought to defend Istalif. The number of its inhabitants exceeded 15,000, who, from their defences and the difficulties of approach, considered their position unassailable. The great part of the plunder seized last January from the British was placed there, and the chiefs kept their wives and families in it; and many also of those who had escaped from Cabul had sought refuge there. The British troops soon made themselves masters of the town, driving the enemy before them with considerable slaughter. The opposition was considerable, and our loss amounted to 6 killed and 45 wounded. Lieutenant Evans, of her Majesty's 41st, was among the slain. The demolition of the forts was immediately begun. The expedition, after the destruction of Chareekar, was expected to return immediately to Cabul.

The notorious Akhbar Khan was a wanderer in Kohistan. On learning that all the prisoners, save Captain Bygrave, whom he had in immediate attendance upon himself, had been surrendered to the British authorities, he came to the resolution of sending in that officer also. Captain Bygrave was allowed to join General Pollock's camp, on taking a letter from Akhbar Khan to the British general, inquiring what the British intended to do with his father and family. Akhbar Khan, it is asserted, has lost all influence with the Affghans, particularly since he refused to place himself at their head at the battle of Tezeen.

On the 1st of October, the Governor-general issued the proclamation from Simla, announcing the victory over the Affghans, and the intended evacuation of the country.

The return of the British armies from Cabul to Peshawar was expected to begin about the 10th of October. There was abundance of

supplies and carriages. The destruction of Cabul, and of the Bala Hissa, and also of the fort of Jellalabad, had been ordered. An attempt was made by Futteh Jung, the son of Schah Soojah, to place himself on the throne of Cabul at the time of the firing of the salute by the British troops on their colours being hoisted in the Bala Hissa. But this *ruse* is said to avail him little, and it was thought that he, like his three brothers, and many adherents of his family, would have to retreat with the armies, in order to lead a peaceable life, as pensioners on the bounty of the hon. Company. It was not known how the Affghans would conduct themselves during the retreat of the troops from Cabul to Peshawur. They are described as highly incensed with the Sikh soldiers who acted as auxiliaries to the British, and who during their progress into the Affghan country had indulged in their propensity for plunder to the utmost. It was stated that the Sikhs intended to retain possession of the Khyber Pass, and to maintain it against the irruption of the Affghans.

The Sikhs anticipate a continuance of the war after the retirement of the British troops. Mr Clark has been appointed envoy at the court of Lahore. To the sovereign of Lahore, Mahajara Shere Singh, Lord Ellenborough was about to pay a visit, and great preparations were being made for the event.

But little difficulty appeared to be expected in the march of the British from Peshawur to India, for the months of November, December, and January, are represented as healthful for marching through the Punjab.

The whole of General England's force has reached Scinde in safety. The last division was attacked by the Murrees while traversing the Boran Pass. Assistant-surgeon Brickwell was killed.

In the interior of India tranquillity prevailed. The disturbances which threatened to create confusion in Bundelkund were, it was expected, about to cease; for all the inhabitants of every part of that continent, including even the dissatisfied and bigoted Moslems, appeared impressed more than ever with a conviction of British superiority, and also of their total inability to make any effectual resistance.

The Governor-general and the Commander-in-chief were expected to leave Simla towards the end of October, in order to meet the army of reserve and the other troops in the vicinity of the Sutledge.

The news of the ratification by the Chinese emperor of the treaty of peace had reached India, and contributed to the general satisfaction. Trade was beginning to experience the results of the general activity.

FRANCE.

The most important event which has occurred in France, and has furnished an exclusive topic of discussion in the French papers, is the election for deputy for the 1st arrondissement in Paris. The ministerial candidate (Gen. Jacqueminot), was chosen by a majority of 147. There were 1,537 votes in the arrondissement. Of these the General had 842 votes; all his opponents united had 695. This election caused considerable excitement in Paris, from the great shock that would have been given to the ministry if General Jacqueminot had failed.

The Paris journals increase rather than diminish in exhibitions of their rancour towards this country, as causes of disagreement become scarcer. It has now reached its height, and is doubtless attributable to our successes in China and India, and the failure of the outbreaks in Spain, fomented as they were by French intrigue.

PRUSSIA.

The results of the parliamentary assembly of Prussia, which held its last session on the 10th of November, are very insignificant with regard to the material objects; nevertheless, their results must be considered as immense and most important, with respect to the progress of constitutional life; which from this assembly will also date its real and positive beginning. The King himself declared in his speech to the parting deputies, that he considered their assembly as the basis of the representative constitution of Prussia, that he considered the deputies as the advisers of the Crown, and the representatives of the kingdom. All the provincial assemblies will be convoked in March, and the minister Von Bodelschwingh has intimated to the committee the probability that they may hope to meet soon again in Berlin, to which, as we heard, one of the deputies of East Prussia replied, by drawing the minister's attention to the too great restrictions in the regulation of their proceedings, and expressed a wish that many parts might be changed; a remark which was received with general acclamation by the other deputies.

The deputies were paid by the Prussian treasury, without distinction, 3 dollars a day from the period of their departure from their homes, and one dollar, ten groschen, per mile, for their traveling expenses to and from Berlin. The customs union between France and Belgium being abandoned, the Prussian government has, it is said, entered into new negotiations with the cabinet of Brussels. Prussia offers, in the name of the Zollverein, several most important concessions towards the Belgian industry, in order to place still greater obstacles between the projected union of French and Belgian commerce.

SPAIN.

The progress of the Regent towards Barcelona was attended by manifestations of good-will and enthusiasm, by the inhabitants of the towns through which he passed. At Saragossa, the National militia presented him an address full of devotion and sympathy. Van Halen, who threatened the city with bombardment, granted successive delays. On the 28th, a new junta, composed of the bishops and of the most wealthy and influential manufacturers, was formed. It is supported by the majority. Several members of the old junta took refuge on board the ships.

On the 29th, Van Halen relinquished his design of bombarding the city, and in the course of the day salutes from Montjuich announced the arrival of the Regent at head quarters. Barcelona was now blockaded by sea and land. The force in possession of the insurgents is stated at 6000 men, and the new directive junta, and the disposition of the troops, seem to have been organised with much order.

The Regent had received a large supply of provisions from the inhabitants of Minorca, and Van Halen had succeeded in throwing a third supply into the garrison of Montjuich.

The *Sentinelle des Pyrenées* gives the following intelligence, but without any further guarantee to confirm it:—

"Demi-official news has reached Bayonne of the submission of Barcelona without any conditions, with the exception of about 200

men, who had shut themselves up in one of the fortresses of the town."

The report of the revolutionary symptoms having appeared elsewhere seems perfectly unfounded. The *Times* Paris letters state, "on authority beyond question," that "the atrocious attempt to rekindle civil war in Spain, was organised (and at an immense expense to her), by the party by whom Queen Christina is here surrounded." And all the accounts put forth of the spread of the insurrection into the neighbouring provinces, were the invention of interested parties. "So abhorrent is the idea of civil war in Spain at this moment, that Terradas, who was previously beloved in the district of Lampredon, found on his hoisting the standard of rebellion there last week, the whole population opposed to him. In every village the tocsin was sounded, and, instead of partisans, he everywhere encountered determined opponents."

"In conclusion," adds our correspondent, "not only has this attempt failed, but will have given new strength, and, in fact, consolidation and permanency to the Queen's government. Everywhere cries of 'Viva Isabella!' have been uttered, and everywhere (I am assured that I may safely pledge myself for this fact) the desire of the people is to be left to the enjoyment, and to be allowed to occupy themselves only with the works, of peace."

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

PARTY CORRUPTION IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.—An event has lately transpired in an investigation at Clerkenwell, which, for its gross violation of every principle of right, is almost unparalleled in these days of professed regard to the impartial administration of justice. A man named Staunton was brought up, charged with robbery. It appeared that the fellow's life had been one series of crimes and villainies, thefts of all kinds, seduction for the purpose of pillaging the victim, and bigamy. He had been convicted of felony, and sentence of death recorded against him. But the consummate scoundrel had a claim to the grace of a tory government, and mark what it was, and how readily it was recognised without a glance at his offences, or the slightest care or concern as to their nature. During the agitation of the Catholic Relief bill, his father had in some way rendered the government of the day some service. An application was accordingly made to Mr Goulburn, the chancellor of the exchequer, respecting the character of the man, whose pardon, it appears, Mr Goulburn had been the means of procuring some years ago. Here is the part of his reply referring to the matter:—"Mr Goulburn believes that some years since a man of the name of Staunton, then in the penitentiary, applied to him for his intercession, on the ground of his having, when Mr Goulburn was secretary for Ireland, given useful information to the government. Having reason to believe that there was foundation for that statement, Mr Goulburn did make an application to some person about him, but to whom he does not recollect, and he afterwards received a very proper letter from the person, informing him that he was released. Since then (it is now some years since) Mr Goulburn has heard nothing of Staunton. He is, therefore, unable to afford any information respecting either his habits or character." For the consideration of some party service, or party job, here was an inveterate scoundrel delivered from the just sentence of the law, and turned loose to prey on society, as he appears to have done ever since. This full pardon and release too was granted, not on the ground of any injustice in his conviction, or of any undue severity in his sentence, or of any extenuating circumstances, but simply and solely that he had given useful information to the government when Mr Goulburn was secretary for Ireland. This scoundrel was brought up before the magistrates at Clerkenwell a few days since, charged with two thefts to a considerable amount. During the investigation a series of villainies were brought to light, such as the history of few men can furnish. Besides various thefts, the prisoner had, by professing to have a considerable property, and by promise of marriage, persuaded a young woman to withdraw £10 from the savings bank, which was all she had; stole it, and then absconded. This happened in 1835. The following year he was apprehended for theft, and was tried, convicted, and sentence of death recorded against him at Stafford, on four distinct charges. One was, while lodging at Kennington, while the family were at church, he broke open all the drawers, stole property to the amount of £19, and a bible, which he had borrowed of the lady of the house in the morning. This was the occasion when he obtained pardon by Mr Goulburn's influence. Since that period his conduct has been still more atrocious, and at the police court several cases of seduction and bigamy were proved against him. In the course of the inquiry Mr Coombes, the sitting magistrate, exclaimed—"You are the most consummate villain I ever met in the whole course of my experience. I am surprised the Secretary of State remitted your punishment." The witnesses were bound over in £100 each, to appear on Saturday, to which day the case was remanded. All the victims of this villain, since his release by special favour of the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, have to thank Mr Goulburn for their injuries. In perverting the prerogative to the defeat of justice, and in turning a scoundrel on the world again, because the scoundrel had been his apt tool, Mr Goulburn has made himself morally answerable for all the wrongs that the criminal has committed. Staunton was again examined on Saturday before Mr Coombes, further villainies were proved against him, and he was remanded till Thursday.—*Abridged from the Examiner.*

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, CITY ROAD.—The half-yearly meeting of governors of this institution was held on Wednesday, at the King's Head tavern, Poultry, when a report was presented by the committee on the state of the schools, which was particularly encouraging; also with respect to the contemplated new building at Haverstock hill, for which it appears plans are preparing by a select number of architects, to whom prizes are to be given for the two best designs. A powerful appeal was made for donations to the building fund; and, as an inducement, it is intended to constitute the collector of 100 guineas a life governor of the institution, in addition to ten life subscribers who may be constituted by their respective donations. The general court adopted a rule of great importance to a deserving class of candidates, who have few friends to assist them in canvassing; which is, to allow all the votes polled by unsuccessful candidates to be placed to their credit at the succeeding election. On the conclusion of the ordinary

business the ballot took place, when seven boys and four girls were elected into the school. On the preceding day a most interesting examination of the boys' school took place in the presence of a numerous and highly-respectable auditory. Afterwards the youths who have been apprenticed by the institution were rewarded for their good conduct, and they were severally addressed by the chairman, who, in the name of the committee, invited them to dine. Mr Mills concluded by an appropriate address to the children, and to all persons present. At intervals the children sang some of Hullah's choicest pieces in good style.

NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE.—The Gresham committee have voted the sum of 3000 guineas to ornament the pediment of the portico of this national edifice with sculpture. The design of Mr R. Westmacott has been chosen, and he has been appointed to carry it into effect. In the course of next spring the buildings in front of the Bank are to be pulled down; and that space, when cleared, is to be the site for the statue of the Duke of Wellington, immediately in front of the great portico of the Exchange. In the course of next year the work will be in great forwardness, and, it is stated, will certainly be finished in the summer of the following year.

The *Standard* of last Wednesday announces—"We have reason to believe that it is proposed by the government to appoint a commission, the services on which will be gratuitously rendered, for the purpose of considering, on comprehensive principles, the various plans which have been suggested for the improvement of the metropolis. A letter has been addressed by Sir Robert Peel to each of the following noblemen and gentlemen, and each has consented to be a member of the Commission of Metropolitan Improvements:—The Lord Mayor; the Earl of Lincoln; Alexander Milne, Esq.; Hon. Charles A. Gore; Lord Lyttelton; Lord Colborne; the Right Hon. J. C. Herries; Sir Robert Inglis, Bart, M.P.; Sir Charles Lemon, Bart, M.P.; Sir Robert Smirke; Henry T. Hope, Esq.; H. Gally Knight, Esq., M.P.; and Charles Barry, Esq."

EXTRAORDINARY MICROSCOPE.—At the Royal Polytechnic Institution, on Wednesday evening, a new microscope, constructed by Mr Cary, the optician to the institution, was exhibited. The effects are produced by the agency of the oxy-hydrogen jet playing on a piece of quicklime, familiarly known as Drummond light, and are perfectly astounding, as the following accurate statement of facts will show. The microscope in question consists of six powers, ranging from one hundred and thirty times to seventy-four millions of times. The second magnifying power magnifies the wings of the locust to twenty-seven feet in length. The fourth power magnifies the sting of the bee twenty-seven feet. By the sixth power, the eye of the fly, which is said to contain 750 lenses, is so magnified that each lens appears to be 14 inches in diameter; the human hair is magnified 18 inches in diameter, or four feet in circumference. Nothing can exceed the beauty with which insect architecture is developed under the influence of this enormous power; the condensing lens is 9½ inches in diameter. This beautiful instrument will, there can be no doubt, afford a fund of amusement and instruction to the visitors of the institution.

GOODS FOR CHINA.—Five large first-class ships have been put "in berth," in the two principal docks, for the reception of goods for Hong-Kong, Ningpo, Amoy, &c. They are announced to be "entered out" on an early day. The first to sail under the new order of things for the Chinese waters, will take out an assorted cargo of manufactures. This is the best way of commencing a free trade with the Chinese.—*Morning Advertiser.*

Last week one of the collecting clerks of a joint-stock banking company, in Moorgate street, decamped with notes to the amount of nearly £20,000. The greater part, however, has been recovered. In the course of the latter part of Tuesday, the sum of £19,415 was sent by him to one of his friends, who forthwith delivered the same into the hands of Mr Ambrose Moore, one of the directors, and Mr Pollard, the manager of the bank, about nine o'clock on Tuesday night. The amount advertised as stolen is £19,715; consequently there still remains a deficiency of £300 unaccounted for.

Two individuals have attempted to commit suicide during the past week through distress, and being refused relief from the parish officers of Shoreditch. The one is the case of an old man named Seward, of 50, with two children, who cut his throat in so shocking a manner, that he is not expected to survive. The other instance was a young man, of 19, named John Black, a French polisher. He purchased two pennyworth of arsenic at a chemist's shop; took it with him to a lodging-house, and took it with some water. He was removed to the hospital.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, December 7.

The *Times* private correspondence from Perpignan of the 1st inst, announces the arrival of an extraordinary courier in that town, bringing intelligence that the insurgents at Barcelona were about to surrender to Espartero, with the exception of some 200 militia men and others, amongst the individuals the most compromised in the revolt, who had not the means to fly, and who had intrenched themselves in the fort of Aterazanas, with the resolution to defend themselves to the last extremity, unless a full and complete amnesty were insured to them. Considerable forces were marching from every direction to reinforce Espartero, who would find himself at the head of 30,000 men. The emigration from Barcelona still continued, and as much as three ounces of gold was paid for the most miserable vehicle to convey passengers to the French frontier.

The *Journal de Smyrne* of the 19th ult. states, that the representatives of the five allied powers at Constantinople, had simultaneously presented new instructions from their respective courts, in answer to the notifications made by the Porte, relative to the question of Lebanon. These instructions, nearly identical in their main points, were laid before his excellency Sarim Effendi, the minister for foreign affairs, and had given rise to fresh activity and discussion upon the affairs of that part of the country.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

But little business is doing to-day, and there is no alteration in Monday's prices. The supply is small, being only 1000 quarters of English, and 5000 foreign.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "An excellent New Song," "Veritas," and "W. H." necessarily declined for want of room.
- "G. M." The cards will not be issued until after Christmas.
- Our plan precludes the insertion of the article from Ireland, "On the State of Independency" in that country; and as it will appear in the *Christian Examiner* there is the less necessity for our giving it insertion in our closely crowded columns.
- We will put Mr Dale's letter into the hands of Mr Sturge.
- "H. E." His advice is sound, and we have reason to believe will be carried out, but can hardly be published with prudence at the present moment.
- "J. Marshall." We are sorry we are not able to help him to a name.
- "Query." Not yet. We cannot open another discussion until the close of the present year.
- "S." We must be allowed to reserve this as the basis for some further observations as soon as possible.
- "An Irishman" must give us his own name and address, with a reference to some well known party.
- The letter on the subject of the Ipswich election has unfortunately been mislaid.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

For 8 lines5s. 0d.	For 16 lines...7 0	For 24 lines...9 0
10.....5 6	18.....7 6	26.....9 6
12.....6 0	20.....8 0	28.....10 0
14.....6 6	22.....8 6	Every additional 2 lines,

* * Advertisements from the country should be accompanied by a post office order, or reference for payment in London.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1842.

SUMMARY.

THE news from the East, received by the regular overland mail, continues to be of a favourable character. The last prisoner, Captain Bygrave, has been released by Akhbar Khan. The treaty of peace agreed upon at Nankin has been confirmed by the Emperor, and is now on its way to this country to receive ratification from the hand of Queen Victoria. It is probable that a special embassy from the court of Peking is about to visit London, by which means more light will be let in upon the minds of the Chinese, as to the character and resources of Great Britain, than by all the steam ships, battering trains, and bombardments, we have taken such pains to force upon their notice. One only regrets that proper means were not taken to induce this step before the commencement of the war; and hopes that, as the first result of it, the Indian government will be obliged to wash its hands of continued opium-smuggling into China. Lord Ellenborough is now engaged in distributing rewards amongst his victorious troops; and it is not a little mortifying to those who had gloried in the fancied progression of human kind to know that men may be hired to expose their own lives, and to take the lives of others, for such trumpery wages as those awarded to the Indian army. Bits of ribbon, medals, banners, re-organisation and re-naming of regiments, together with six months additional *battue*, constitute the childish compensation which privates reap from hard service in war. Their leaders, of course, will claim and have a more substantial mark of their country's gratitude. They play the hazardous game for stakes of some amount—pensions and peerages are what they have an eye to. Such, in every department, is the selfish course of aristocratic government. The poor are used as tools to carve out distinctions for the nominees of noble families, and are then dismissed with a few fine words and a worthless medal.

From Spain the accounts indicate the speedy restoration of the Regent's authority in Barcelona. Again, therefore, the ex-regent Queen Christina is defeated in her projects, and the government of Espartero confirmed in its position. The town is now blockaded, both by sea and land, and its capitulation has probably by this time taken place. The nation, sick of intestine feuds, and anxious for repose, has declined to follow the bad example of Barcelona; and the insurrection has had no other effect than that of displaying the adherence of all classes to the present regency. We may hope that this event may be the means of preventing any further machinations being set on foot for embroiling the Spanish nation in all the horrors of civil war.

The Solway steamer from the West Indies brings an account of preparations being made by the colonial planters for the admission of a relaxation of the discriminating duties on sugar. It appears that a recent dispatch of Lord Stanley's has intimated to them the necessity pressing upon the home government to allow of the introduction of foreign sugar at a lower duty than the present one; and the *Manchester Guardian* assures us, upon what it deems good authority, that ministers will propose to fix an import duty upon foreign sugar at 30s. per hundred weight, instead of at 63s. This is just the course we anticipated Sir Robert Peel would take. Those who expect a further modification of the corn laws next session will find themselves, we imagine, most grievously disappointed. Colonel Thompson writes to the *Morning Chronicle*, hinting his suspicions, which facts too fully confirm, that spies are abroad for the purpose of thrusting upon anti-corn-law meetings the most seditious sentiments. These, of course, are duly noted down by confederates, and when placed in the hands of the several authorities, may be converted at the proper time into good materials for prosecution. If the Colonel's suspicions be correct, the hopes of the Anti-corn-law League cannot be well-founded. We suspect they will find that the diffusion of information, by means of tracts stitched in the covers of magazines and reviews, will hardly be strong enough to relieve £50 tenants-at-will from the coercion of their landlords, or to force open the large number of close boroughs, such as Eye,

Harwich, and Bury. *Nous verrons*. With corn already down to 45s. a quarter—with distress and pauperism in agricultural districts—with a recommencement of the infernal system of incendiarism—with brighter prospects for trade, owing to the confirmation of the Nankin treaty, and the cessation of hostilities in Afghanistan—with the ministerial purpose of attacking the West India monopoly—with a number of his followers banded together to upset his government, rather than to allow of any further relaxation of the corn laws—with the established church more than half suspicious of his fidelity—how can it be reasonably expected that Sir Robert Peel will venture upon any modification of the corn law forced upon the country last session. When we see an intimation of such a resolve in the Queen's speech, we shall believe it; but till then we must take leave to doubt.

The elections of delegates to the Birmingham conference are proceeding hopefully. At Glasgow, we observe, the complete suffragists have sustained a defeat. We are informed that the country was ransacked for ten miles round the city, to gather together a suitable chartist assembly. Six delegates were chosen, amidst the greatest noise and tumult, and of course will have to obtain their expenses from the party who have deputed them. In other places the elections have been conducted in harmony, and have terminated as the best friends of the cause could wish. We regret, that by an inadvertence of our own, an impression has got abroad, that the council of the Union abandoned in its second address the plan of separate elections proposed in the first. Upon a closer inspection of the documents in question, we find that there is no disagreement. They propose that public meetings be called, either by local authorities, or by complete suffrage unions, or by any class of reformers. They also propose that public meetings of the distinct classes, electors and non-electors, be called in the same manner; but relying upon the good sense of reformers everywhere, they earnestly recommend that the system of public united meetings be adopted as extensively as possible. We are deeply grieved that any necessity for caution in this matter should exist. Certain we are, that those who have created the necessity, will be the chief sufferers from it; and it will be found in the end, that just in proportion to the temporary success of faction, will be its permanent failure.

A SOBER PLEA IN ARREST OF JUDGMENT.

THE accounts we continue to receive from various parts of the country, touching the elections to the forthcoming conference at Birmingham, leave us little room to fear as to the complexion of that body. Our anxieties have been driven into a very narrow space, and within another fortnight, we confidently anticipate, will be compelled to surrender at discretion. With these prospects we might, we think, have left unnoticed the somewhat illogical conclusions, adverse to complete suffrage principles, to which the whig provincial organs have of late been galloping. It would seem that, according to their peculiar mode of reasoning—which, like their policy, we suspect, is framed rather upon what is expedient for the time being than upon what is right in itself—the success of the conference would do nothing to prove the safety of national representation, based upon complete suffrage, whilst its failure would shut up the advocates of the proposed system to a virtual admission of its present impracticability. "The Union," consequently, is to take nothing by its move. All this we should be justified in dismissing, as the result of a foregone judgment, rather than of sober reason, were the jury empaneled devoid of party feeling. Since, however, we are forced reluctantly to avow our belief that the middle classes of this kingdom are somewhat open to the influence of prejudice in this matter—since we fear that a scanty induction of facts, woven in the same tissue with flimsy sophistry, will suffice to convince them of the danger of the present movement, we feel called upon to say a word or two in arrest of a precipitate and unrighteous judgment. Had the untoward symptoms which we noticed a short time since ripened into a factious defeat of the "Union," we contend that, whilst it would have had to encounter formidable difficulties, arising out of the position in which it would have been placed, not an inch of argument would have been cut away from beneath its main principles.

Is there no possibility, we ask, of framing to ourselves a clear conception of the difference between right and convenience, as the ground of action? May not men be under obligation, at times, to do what is little suited to their inclinations, and what may seem to militate very decidedly against their present interests? In case, for example, of robbery, ought not the guilty party to make instant restitution, even when he suspects that the first use which will be made of the property he restores, will be to prosecute himself? And supposing a man, in obedience to the remonstrances of conscience, and deaf to representations, by his comrades in crime, of the danger he will run, declares his determination to acknowledge previous deeds of violence and fraud, and to restore, in so far as might be done, what he had unjustly taken, would he be compelled, because by thus acting he had brought police officers about his ears, to concede to his former associates in crime, and partners of the spoil, the utter impropriety of honest but self-sacrificing conduct? Now, with the utmost deference to the whig press—the *Leeds Mercury*, the *Glasgow Argus*, the *Manchester Guardian*, et id genus omne—we say that immediate success is not an unerring standard, for a nation, of right and wrong. We beg to remind them that there are principles a belief in, and a practical recognition of, which are a people's duty, even when seemingly hostile to a people's interests. With our present notions of moral obligation, and our present views of the questions referred to, we should argue that America would do well to abolish slavery, even if insurrection would be the certain consequence of that act; and that this country

would determine wisely in abolishing a state church, even although the prediction, that an endless division of sects would ensue therefrom, were certain of being accomplished.

The National Complete Suffrage Union has, from the first, based its agitation upon the ground of justice. It has never avowed, in support of its principles, the infallibility of the people, or their superiority, under all circumstances, to the influence of passion. It admits that they may mistake their real interests, pursue vain and unattainable objects, be misled by blind devotion to designing men. It does not lose sight of the fact that a constituency, even the most extended, will still be a constituency of erring men—and that a body accurately representing their wants and wishes may do some very foolish things, and may be actuated by some very questionable motives. In the spirit of true equity, however, it demands that such concessions shall not be turned exclusively against its principles. If used in argument at all, let them be used where they will apply, against the entire system of government by representation—let them be wielded in favour of absolutism. We are without irrefragable proof that a ten-pound constituency is impervious to false notions. A narrow electoral basis does not shut the door upon selfishness and faction. The present House of Commons, chosen by the middle classes, is not, we take leave to assert, a stainless mirror of purity and wisdom—nor are all the acts of the last session so obviously just and beneficial as to commend themselves to the conscience and heart of this great nation. The exclusive system, consequently, cannot be said to have worked well. It is no efficient guarantee against misapprehension or corruption. And if the possibility of arriving at inconvenient results be a safe measure of the intrinsic soundness of constitutional principles, we ask why it is taken as a test of complete suffrage only, and is rejected as a criterion of the existing system. The old proverb says, "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." If the reasoning of these whig papers be correct, every constituency will come under condemnation. Facts such as those we have noticed, tell against representation altogether, or they do not tell against complete representation in particular. Let them be urged right home by the opponents of popular enfranchisement, or let them cease to be urged at all. They may give scope for effective party hits, but they afford but miserable weapons in support of truth.

It may be noted, further, that should the ensuing conference turn out as disastrously as its bitterest foes could desire, it will furnish no convincing evidence of the danger to be apprehended from the adoption of complete suffrage. The council of the Union have taken the only practicable step open to them, to obtain an accurate reflection of the mind and will of reformers—but its machinery is necessarily incomplete. It has not at its command the means of giving effect, in this instance, to its own principles. It can neither resort to the ballot, nor prescribe equal electoral districts. The weight of middle-class opinion, which would unquestionably serve to give ballast to the movement, is to a large extent withheld. The working men, consequently, will have, in the expected conference, a larger proportion of representative power than they could possibly command in a parliament elected by all classes—and the absence of all checks upon fraud, combined with strong motives to activity, will in this case give an advantage to faction, which in a general election to the house of Commons would be wanting. If, consequently, under these irremediable circumstances of imperfection, the conference should pursue an unreasonable course, it is to be borne in mind that it has few of the elements in its composition, which in a legislative body would be present to give it steadiness. Its failure would not be conclusive, even against the immediate expediency of complete suffrage principles, inasmuch as the conservatism of society refuses to be represented in it. But should it succeed—should its deliberations be conducted with decorum, its resolutions be instinct with reason and justice, its proceedings be marked by firmness tempered with moderation, then, we contend, that the safety of complete suffrage is proved *à fortiori*. For if, when the unenfranchised class has an unnatural preponderance of power, it discovers no disposition to abuse it; how much more may rational and sober legislation be expected (accommodating our language to class self-complacency) when all the intelligence and patriotism of existing constituencies is thrown into the scale?

The eventual triumph of complete suffrage principles is as certain as the succession of spring to winter. But we have already intimated that the safety of it, at least during the earlier period of its trial, will very mainly depend upon the mode and time of its adoption. We say, "Unchain the lion"—but we also say, "Beware of goading him into phrensy before you do so." Our exhortation is, "Emancipate your British helots"—but we caution you against first provoking their resentment, by the repeated interposition of annoyances and insult. Let that which is done be done at once, and in the spirit of kindness rather than of constraint. Let that be now yielded to right, which will else at some future time be surrendered to fear. By pursuing this course, most of the dangers of complete suffrage will be obviated. But if the working men are to be first taxed into wretchedness, and starved into insurrection—if they are then to be visited, not merely with the punishment awarded to crime by law, but also with exclusion from all the rights of citizenship—if they are to be treated with suspicion, taunted with ignorance—

"Every fault observed, set in a note-book,
Learn'd and conn'd by rote to cast into their teeth"—

then we must allow that complete suffrage may be followed by evil consequences. The longer it is postponed, the more unsafe it will become. It is easy to kindle resentment—it is not so easy to allay it when kindled. Injustice evermore begets retaliation—and in proportion to the length of our persistence in the first, will be the breadth and depth of the last. The wronged will become more and

more impracticable—their schemes will embody ever-increasing hostility of feeling—purposes of revenge will outspoke the whispers of calm reason—and measures which were once not only just but safe, when they have become inevitable, will be fraught with peril to the dearest interests of the empire.

LOW WAGES.

EVERY now and then the press is seized with a sudden fit of benevolence, and pours forth unbounded indignation against some social evil, the victims of which have been accidentally brought under its notice. A police report, a casual observation in the house of Commons, the punishment of a pauper, or some kindred means of public instruction, exhibits a case of individual wrong, from which numerous other cases of wrong are clearly to be inferred, and forthwith we are inundated with leading articles exclaiming loudly against the social injustice, and calling for immediate palliation, without considering the circumstances under which the injustice has grown, and the extent to which it has spread. These imperfect and hurried appeals in behalf of suffering are creditable enough to our humanity, although they do not attest our judgment and reflexion; they evince a desire to do good, along with an ignorance of the real nature of the disease, which must render the best intentions fruitless.

Exactly of this character have been the comments of the press, without distinction of party, on the unhappy lot of the shirtmakers of the metropolis. Two ladies, the daughters of a major in the army, were reduced to the lowest state of poverty. When interrogated by Mr Norton, to whom they applied for relief, as to their previous means of subsistence, they informed him that they had been employed to make shirts, for which they were paid three halfpence each—that is, for the labour of two or three hours. After further inquiry, it was ascertained that hundreds of women were in the habit of being employed at this rate of remuneration. Nothing could be more painful than a fact like this, involving, as it must, such accompaniments of misery; but how was it met? Meetings were proposed, and in some instances called, to induce the masters to give better wages—twopence and threepence, instead of a penny and three halfpence; public subscriptions were talked of, and it was hinted that the Lord Mayor could not better commence his year of office, than by promoting a subscription in the city; and bitterly were those assailed who directed their bounty into foreign channels, forgetful of the stronger claims of their wretched sisters at home. Far be it from us to check these charitable efforts; they have of course their value, excepting, indeed, the attempt to coerce the masters into high prices by the pressure of public opinion; which must egregiously fail, since the price of labour never did and never will depend upon public opinion. But when eleemosynary palliatives have been exhausted, and others have proved abortive, the question still recurs, What is to be done with the labourer, male or female, who is compelled to choose between employment fearfully underpaid, and actual starvation? Temporary expedients will not avail, because the evil is not temporary—it is deep-seated, and threatens to be permanent. The shirt-makers of the metropolis have their parallel in every large town and every populous district throughout the country; milliners and dressmakers, in many instances, work as hard for almost as little payment. Five, six, and seven shillings a week, is the amount gladly received by the lowest and most numerous class of these women labourers. The umbrella and shoe manufactories could tell a tale of equal hardship. In Birmingham, women are paid two-pence per gross for blacking hooks and eyes—for sewing them on cards three halfpence per gross—and for burnishing the same quantity, to do which they have to stand before a red hot stove all day, twopence halfpenny! And, not to enumerate more items of a similar description, which, alas, it were too easy to do, we learn from Mr Jelinger Symons, an authority not to be doubted, that out of two hundred thousand women, engaged in our woolen, cotton, linen, and silk manufactories, those above eighteen years of age, one half of whom are married, only earn from four to seven shillings a week, working twelve or fourteen hours every day. We are justified, therefore, in saying that charity can do little good here—our labouring population, male and female, want the application of a sterner virtue than charity. They cry aloud for justice. By the pressure of class institutions they have been ground to the dust; and, perhaps, the strongest evidence of this paramount fact of the nineteenth century is, that the wives and daughters of labouring men are obliged to abandon their more congenial occupations of home and family, and join the convulsive efforts of their husbands and fathers to ward off impending starvation. Selfish legislation, long uninterrupted, has produced this state of things, and unselfish legislation will alone remove it. The facts that have lately been rung in the ears of the apathetic and indifferent from all quarters—mining, manufacturing, and agricultural—ought to rouse them to the necessity of eradicating the cause of selfish legislation; for they may rely upon it that no policy less stringent and effective will ever give to labour that position which all admit it has a right to occupy.

A PATENT PICKLOCK FOR PRISON DOORS.

THE *Examiner* of Saturday last brings under public notice a case of as unblushing a perversion of justice as the recent history of this country will probably furnish. A man, named Henry Staunton, was a few days back brought before the police court, Clerkenwell, charged with robbery. He had formerly been guilty of a series of crimes—thefts of all kinds, seduction, and bigamy. He had been convicted of felony, and sentence of death recorded against him. But, according to Mr Goulburn's own statement, he had, when Mr

Goulburn was secretary for Ireland, given useful information to the government. Mr Goulburn had consequently interceded for, and obtained his release. The particulars will be found in another column.

It seems that a man who can consent to degrade himself into a spy of government purchases, by his degradation, not merely immediate wages, but also indemnity for future crimes. Between Tetzels, of notorious memory, and Goulburn, of modern times, there are many points of resemblance. We cannot draw out the parallel to its whole extent, but we may note some of the more obvious features of agreement. The monk was a narrow-minded tool of an ecclesiastical system, then standing, but in all its pride, upon the brink of the Reformation. The chancellor is a little, obstinate, devout instrument of the same kind; devoted to the service of toryism, which, in the fullness of its present triumph, is yet approaching its final fall. Tetzels had a horror of protestantism—Goulburn of popery; and with both the worst of means are sanctified by the importance of party ends. Tetzels sold indulgences to sin for the service of the church—the cabinet minister sells impunity for crime for the service of the government. We shall have no lack of informers for many a day. Villains thrice-dyed in iniquity will take care, by furnishing important information to the government, to purchase for themselves this new patent picklock for prison doors. Of what use is the incorruptibility of the bench, if its judgments may thus be turned aside by unscrupulous party politicians? The wretch, whom Mr Goulburn turned loose again upon society, has since then been filling up the measure of his crimes, and his victims may now ascribe the villainies which have been perpetrated upon them to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's zeal against papal ascendancy in Ireland.

THE STRIKE.

ITS HISTORY, CAUSES, AND CONSEQUENCES.

(From a Manchester Correspondent.)

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions contained in these papers.]

V.

Continuation—Reform bill—Results—Chartist agitation—Previous prosperity of the manufacturing districts, and its results.

THE proceedings of 1819 were followed, in after years, by many efforts of a minor character to obtain the much-desired reform. The catholic claims—the anti-corn-law agitation of 1828-9, and other questions, occupied a portion of public attention. At length came the Duke of Wellington's no-reform declaration, and with it a temporary and seeming union between masters and men, for the general defence. The stirring scenes which followed are well known. All through the manufacturing districts the fires of patriotism burnt furiously. Meetings, petitions, remonstrances, memorials, followed each other in quick succession. Liberal masters—and who in those days would be thought otherwise?—stopped their factories at an hour's warning, to give their workmen an opportunity of attending suddenly convened gatherings. Liberal workmen cheerfully suspended their labours, and went forth to back some remonstrance or demand. The movement had assumed a defensive character, and the necessity for defence brought out men of all ranks, and combined them together in the same bond of union. At first, contention seemed buried. When, however, the whigs were firmly seated upon a large majority of the house of Commons, and the upper House alone stood in the way of "the bill," the people began to ask for something more for themselves. All had heretofore cried, "The bill, the whole bill, and nothing less than the bill," and now "something besides the bill" was attempted to be added. Amendments were moved for universal suffrage, and met with more or less success. In Lancashire, they were usually passed, when pressed to a division. In Yorkshire, less frequently. Elsewhere the same. Finding the popular excitement, now raised to the highest pitch, about to be directed, as they said, "beyond the bill," the middle class leaders, in many cases, compromised with the favourites of the working men. The principle of universal suffrage, and the abstract right of every adult male to vote were affirmed; but it was at the same time stated, that the demand for the practical expression of the admitted right and principle, should be postponed until the pending bill was secured.

In many places a positive pledge was given that, in return for the aid of the working men in carrying the Reform bill, the middle classes would endeavour to use the power it might give them in furtherance of the avowedly just claims of the labouring millions. Here was sown the seed of a noxious separation between the two useful classes, more marked and more hostile than any former one. The implied or distinctly made promises were not fulfilled. No sooner was the scanty harvest of reform safely housed, than many a sturdy, though unblistered hand, dropped willingly from the plough. The golden dreams of the people were soon dissolved by the sterility of the reality; and the disappointment felt by the masses was as bitter as was their previous anticipation delightful. In the frame of mind naturally resulting from this revulsion of feeling, the "demagogues," once admitted to council and advice with their superiors in station, but now looked upon by them with indifference, easily widened the breach in venting their spleen against "the traitorous middle classes." The compunctions of many were thus quieted. Popular abuse was seized hold of as a reason for retiring from the field of politics; and those disposed at first to act honestly by the people, found a good reason for doing wrong, in the violence of the hot-headed and imprudent portion of the working classes.

Some years of uneasiness and useless struggle succeeded. The trading prosperity of 1834, 1835, 1836, and 1837, followed. Employment became plentiful, wages good, and profits high. As men's circumstances improved, their desire for thorough political changes seemed to diminish. In fact, at this period the remark of Knight of Oldham, "that the people of England were politically damned," seemed to be true, as far as the manufacturing districts were concerned. During these years of intense progress, there were many proofs of social activity among the working men. The factory agitation was carried forward. The Short Time bill passed. The parliamentary investigation preceeding it threw much light upon the real condition of the factory population. The trade's unions were most active, and ran many successful tilts against the employers. Mechanics' institutions,

and other institutions for diffusing education among the people, were everywhere established. The high wages received enabled the working classes to read and see more. And, lastly, the extension and improvement of machinery multiplied a class of workmen peculiar to manufactures—the artificers and mechanics, the skilled and educated labourers; and, by cutting off the beast-of-burden labour before existing, without diminishing the quantity of employment or reducing the wages, elevated the physical condition of the whole of the manufacturing population, and improved the intellect, if not the morals, of great numbers. These "piping times" impregnated the then independent working class, not only with a strong spirit of caste, but also with a spirit of authoritative exclusiveness. In many trades the men were really masters. A certain number of apprentices, *only*, were allowed. Lists of prices and trade regulations were agreed upon by the workmen, and enforced upon the masters. Nay, so far did full pockets operate, that the better paid men had rooms at their houses of call, labeled as "Spinners' Room," "Mechanics' Room," "Dyers' Room," &c.; and no one belonging to another trade was allowed there to take his "allowance," without the express permission of "the company." Temperance and tee-totalism rose and prospered amidst all this. The period was that of very much good, as well as of some evil.

An increased political knowledge, as well as a just feeling of the inferiority under which they were placed by existing institutions—stimulated, no doubt, by the appearance of commercial depression, called forth the working men of the long slumbering manufacturing districts; and the immense meetings to petition for universal suffrage, annual parliaments, vote by ballot, &c., of the autumn of 1838, took place. The meeting held on Kersal moor, in Sept., 1838, was perhaps the largest ever held in England. The trades of Manchester and the surrounding towns came out as bodies. The processions to the meeting were most imposing. Order and decorum reigned throughout, and many men then augured the dawn of better days for the people.

It is almost useless to trace the progress of that which has been called the "chartist" agitation. It needs only to be said that wise councils and prudence deserted the convention; that prudent and tried men were soon replaced by young and empty-headed declaimers, or reckless panders to the lowest prejudices of the most ignorant; that the making of pikes and the furbishing up of old guns occupied the attention of many foolish young men in different localities; that the trades, as bodies, were thus kept from again openly appearing; that the moral influence of the movement was lost; that the abuse of the middle-class employers—the great staple of the chartist press of that day—and the reckless endeavours, but too successfully made to set the men openly against the masters, denounced as "factory tyrants," "millicrats," "blood-suckers," "profit-mongers," and "money-grubbers," alienated the feelings of the property class from what was then understood as chartism, and made the unreflecting of them consider that every advance of the working men was, by the showing of the chartist press, a lever gained by which to overthrow and confiscate capital. The real cause of this is to be traced to a combination of ignorance on the part of the lower, and of prejudice and want of performance of duty on the part of the middle, classes. The latter had, years before, left the field open to the enemy; and because he entered at the gate, and then shut it upon them, they denounced the ill designs of men suffering even more than themselves, though less apparently, from the violence of heartless villains and ignorant runners after popularity. The "three days' holiday," consequent upon Mr O'Brien's motion in the convention, and the unfortunate event at Newport, closed one act of the chartist drama. Another, and a better, commenced. It is still before the public, and its past incidents are fresh in the recollection of all.

On Wednesday Prince Albert visited the beacon erected by Captain Frederick Bullock, of her Majesty's steamer Fearless, two years since, upon the Goodwin Sands, in the Fearless. The scene from the water was highly enjoyed by the Prince, who observed to Captain Bullock, that it far exceeded, in point of variety and grandeur, anything which could be witnessed off the coast of Sussex, in the immediate locality of her Majesty's marine residence at Brighton; "to which," said his Royal Highness, "it cannot be compared for one moment." Upon arriving at the beacon, the water was found to be too high to land on the sands. The Queen's cold was too severe to allow of her leaving the castle. Her Majesty and Prince Albert and suite left Walmer castle at an early hour on Saturday morning. The party stopped for a short time at Blackheath, and proceeded through Greenwich, Deptford, New cross, Peckham, &c., to the Great Western railway, where a special train was in attendance to convey her Majesty and suite to Windsor.

It is now generally supposed that the legislature will not assemble for the dispatch of business until the usual period, viz., the first week in February, but nothing certain can be known on the subject until the next privy council.—*Standard*.

An opinion prevails pretty extensively among the monied interest in the city that the approaching session of parliament will bring forth some sweeping measure for the final settlement of the currency question, and for giving the best protection to the public that the case will admit, in regard to banking affairs generally. This opinion is founded upon a variety of causes, but more especially these:—that the present system works as badly as possible—that an abundance of materials for a reform have been provided by the inquiries of various committees of parliament—that the Bank charter is at the disposal of the government, for an early termination, if it is thought prudent to exercise that right—and, finally, that Sir Robert Peel and his ministry, being relieved from all foreign embarrassments, will possess the leisure and the ability to settle these perplexing questions.—*Times*.

The poor-law commissioners have appointed Stephen Charles Denison, Esq., of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-law, to be an assistant commissioner, for the period of thirty days from this date (Nov. 30), for the purpose of inquiring specially into the employment of women and children in agriculture.

The workmen at the new houses of parliament have now commenced their labours on the future residences of the speaker, the serjeant-at-arms, and the lord great chamberlain; and these edifices are already in a state of forwardness, as well as the clock tower. The libraries of both houses are also in a forward state.

PROVINCIAL.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The council of the League is about to commence the erection of a building in which to hold its public meetings, there being none in Manchester sufficiently commodious for that purpose. The site has been given by R. Cobden, Esq., M.P., and is situate in Peter street, Peterloo, Manchester. It will be fifty yards by thirty-five yards, and is to be completed so as to enable the League to hold its intended great meeting immediately before the meeting of parliament.—*Liverpool Chronicle*.

LEAGUE FUND.—At the meeting in Manchester, on Thursday, Mr Cobden stated the results of a tour which he had recently made in West Yorkshire. 150*l.* was subscribed at a tea-party in Sheffield; 850*l.* (afterwards made 1,050*l.*) at a meeting in Huddersfield; 450*l.* in Halifax. In Liverpool it appears that 1,500*l.* has been raised.

SOUTHAMPTON, DEC. 5.—The Ellen, Captain Coster, from Corunna, arrived at Southampton last Tuesday, with thirty head of cattle, which were landed in good condition. These cattle are imported by a gentleman intimately acquainted with the Peninsula. The cattle speculation has not proved very profitable to the importers, although it has paid sufficiently to induce them to continue it, and it is considered that ultimately the importations will be extensive. The Iberia sailed from here on Saturday to convey the peninsular mails. The Solway, Captain Duncan, arrived here yesterday from the West Indies, with a quarter of a million of dollars, and seventeen passengers. Her dates were, St Thomas the 8th of November; Bermuda the 16th; and Fayal the 27th. Sickness prevailed on the Havannah station. The Solway lost nine persons. A French gentleman, a passenger from Tampico, died through excessive drinking. Sir Charles Grey, the governor of Barbadoes, had been ill of the yellow fever. The works at the Southampton docks are progressing towards completion, and men are engaged night and day in finishing the outer dock. The vast number of houses that are covering every spot of ground in all parts of the town will shortly liberalise every ward and parish, as the increase of the inhabitants is principally amongst the lower and middling classes; and it is universally admitted, that where this class of persons has increased, toryism has been overwhelmed by numbers.

BLETSOE.—**NON-EMPLOYMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.**—I regret to inform you that indications of a commotion among the agricultural labourers in this hitherto peaceable district begin to develop themselves. Bodies of men have already begun to assemble, and gone round in bands to the farmers requesting employment. A body of seven or eight men belonging to Harrold went round to the farmers of that parish about the beginning of last month, and in some places expressed themselves in strong language, saying "they could not starve, and bread they must have." At length one of the farmers gave them employment, but some of them could not earn more than 6*d.* a day.—*Correspondent of the Northampton Mercury*.

INCREASE OF PAUPERISM IN ESSEX.—The accounts received from various parts of the county, announce the consequences contemplated by the late rapid reduction in the produce of the soil, as regards the wages of agricultural labourers, which threaten to fall in proportion. In some parts they are already lowered to 8*s.* a week. The difference will be felt, and be thought, by some greater than it appears; but there are parishes in this county where the wages have never been generally and permanently raised beyond 9*s.*, and if the reduction in the price of flour within the last four months is referred to, the shilling lost in the wages will be found to be fully compensated in that article. It is feared many will be thrown out of employ altogether. The union houses are becoming more crowded; and in one union house, which was built to accommodate only 350, there are now more than 300, and an overflow is looked for.

The cost of special constables at Salford during the recent strikes amounted to 375*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*

The subscriptions towards Lord Morpeth's testimonial from the electors of the West Riding of Yorkshire, amount to the sum of £2,200, and it has been determined that the presentation shall take place at Castle Howard early in the next year.

A project for converting Sunderland harbour into a floating dock has met with much support in that town, and it is expected an application will be made to parliament during the next session, for carrying the improvement into effect. By these means vessels would be enabled to float into the harbour at all times of tide. The estimated cost of the undertaking is from £50,000 to £60,000!

At the Duke of Portland's Michaelmas receipt of rents in Nottinghamshire, a few days back, on the health of Sir Robert Peel being proposed, the tenantry refused to respond to it, not approving of such a friend as Sir Robert.

THE NEW POOR-LAW IN KENDAL.—The board of guardians of the Kendal union have unanimously resolved not to allow the separation of man and wife to be introduced into the workhouses of the union, and in this determination they are warmly supported by the inhabitants and rate-payers of the district of all ranks and classes. In announcing their refusal to the Poor-law commissioners, the Kendal board say, "We regard the laws of God and nature to be superior to all human laws, and we never can be instrumental in putting into systematic operation a practice so repugnant to our feelings as men and Christians." And the unanimous determination of the board was, that if the poor-law commissioners attempted to enforce the separation of man and wife, the guardians would resign in a body, and leave the commissioners to carry out the law as they could. In such case they say that it would be impossible to collect the poor-rates of the union, even at the point of the bayonet. In this borough there have been six and a half rates for the maintenance of the poor laid in the present year.

"THOSE WHO LIVE IN GLASS HOUSES SHOULDN'T THROW STONES."—Our readers are aware that last week a severe contest took place at Wakefield, between Messrs Hodgson and Lascelles, for the situation of registrar for the West Riding. The qualification of voters was the possession of freehold property worth 100*l.* a year; accordingly all the men who voted were not only beyond the reach of poverty, but were comparatively rich, many of them very rich, men. Now, it happens that a very large sum of money has been expended during the contest by the contending parties—it is said, not less than from 6,000*l.* to 8,000*l.* each! How in the world was all this money spent? This is

a question which many have asked, and which, we believe, we are in a position to answer. It was spent simply thus—in bribery and corruption! And we shall explain how the bribery and corruption were accomplished. There was no direct bribe offered to the voters. Oh no! This would have been quite disreputable! But there were tickets for traveling expenses given, which varied from 10*s.* to 5*l.* a head. There was also an excellent feed of meat and drink—not a pot of beer and a slice of beef—but a splendid "tuck-out," with lots of wine to wash it down. The poorer classes are severely censured, and justly, because many of them allow themselves to be bribed by five shillings and a pot of beer to vote for a municipal candidate. But what shall we say of comparatively wealthy men, who ought to be above all such considerations, bartering their votes for from 2*l.* to 5*l.* for expenses, a dinner, and a bottle of wine? Is it not shameful, abominable, and disgusting, in every point of view in which it can be considered?—*Abridged from the Leeds Times*.

STATE OF TRADE.—In Manchester during the week the market has been firm, and prices have exhibited a slight upward tendency. Sellers continue steady to the rates of last week, though there are several buyers who refuse or are not empowered to purchase at the prices which are demanded. There has been at Leeds no decided improvement in the market. The news from China and India has caused a run upon the market for goods suited to that quarter, and probably there will be some considerable orders for the East, which will cause a little more life in the winter trade. At Bolton the news from China and India has had rather a stirring effect upon the trade. Counterpanes have had an improved sale, but little advance has been effected in prices. Fine muslins, quiltings, and power-loom cloths maintain a fair sale, and figured cloths have received some advance in price. Immediately on the receipt of the intelligence of the successes in the east, cotton yarns advanced a farthing per pound, and very large sales have been made at the advanced price. In Blackburn the demand for cotton goods since Tuesday week has been more brisk, and at advanced prices. Power-loom shirtings in several cases have obtained an advance of from 6*d.* to 9*d.* per piece. At Huddersfield market there was an average attendance of buyers on Tuesday, and a tolerable amount of business was transacted. Manufacturers manifested an improved tone of feeling, all being of opinion that, ere long, the trade to China must operate favourably on the market. At Bradford the news from China, &c. had but little effect, with the exception of Saxony cloths, of which a few more have been sold; but on all other kinds no decided improvement or demand can be noted. At Rochdale the demand for goods has been very active, and the quantity of goods sold quite equal to those of several weeks past. In Birmingham, during the past few days, a great quantity of orders has been received; and there is now a prospect in Birmingham, as well as other places, of a steady revival.

GOOD NEWS.—The recent news from China has put fresh life into many of our spinners and manufacturers. A very large mill, &c., in the vicinity of Manchester, and which cost the proprietor 120,000*l.*, after standing still some three or four years, has this week been taken, with the view to commence working it without delay. It will require about 1,000 hands in the various departments. So great has the depression of this kind of property been, that the entire was conveyed to the mortgagee, who had a claim for 25,000*l.*, for the small sum of 28,000*l.*—not one-fourth its original cost, and though the machinery is said to be excellent!—*Liverpool Chronicle*.

YARMOUTH HERRING FISHERY.—Between Thursday se'nnight and the succeeding Sunday the herring fishery at Yarmouth has been most extraordinarily prosperous. The catch has been, during that time, about nine hundred lasts. A herring hundred consists of 132 fish, ten times that quantity is called a thousand, and that multiplied by ten a last. The number, therefore, brought in during that time was eleven millions eight hundred and eighty thousand. They were sold on the beach, it is said, for upwards of ten thousand pounds.

STATE OF NORWICH.—In this city we have now something like 8000 people under relief, besides the vast numbers who have been removed home to their parishes. The dullness of trade has thrown thousands out of employ, and many that would have scorned to ask for relief are now obliged to apply; while the better sort of workmen, who have hitherto supported their own independence, must do so soon.

PROPOSED RAILWAYS.—Surveys are now in progress, and application to parliament is intended to be made in the ensuing session, for leave to construct a branch railway from the Blisworth station on the London and Birmingham railway to Nottingham and Peterborough, and likewise for another branch to Leamington and Warwick. Branches are also in contemplation from the London and Dover railway to Canterbury, Margate, and Ramsgate. The Eastern Counties company are about to make a line from their station at Kelvedon to Bury St Edmund's; and the northern and eastern will extend theirs from Bishop's Stortford to Cambridge, terminating by a junction with the Norwich and Yarmouth. Two branch lines from Oxford are to be constructed to join the Great Western at Wallingford and Dideot; and a third to communicate with the Aylesbury Railway. Surveys are also in progress for a line to pass through the towns of Greenwich, Woolwich, Gravesend, Rochester, and Maidstone; and also for another to connect the Brighton and South Western railways. The above lines, when completed, will open a direct line of communication with the metropolis from nearly all parts of the kingdom. Two new stations have lately been opened on the London and Birmingham railway, at Sudbury and Rimer, to accommodate the increasing traffic.

INCENDIARY FIRES.—Incendiarism, though it has somewhat declined during the last fortnight, is not yet put a stop to. On Friday night a fire took place on the farm occupied by Mr Frohock, at Burwell, near Newmarket, by which a barn, with about fifty coombs of wheat and four of oats, and a cart and waggon which had that night for the first time been drawn into the barn, were destroyed. Some lucifer matches have been found near the place.—On Monday evening, about five o'clock, a fire broke out in an off-hand barn in the occupation of Mr Snell, at Lawshall, which was entirely destroyed, together with a quantity of faggots, its only contents.—On Thursday evening, about eight o'clock, two fires were discovered in the farm yards of Mr Hemmant and Mr Parnell, at Thorney, in the Isle of Ely, about a mile and a half distant from each other, and which were distinctly seen at Wis-

beach, from twelve to fourteen miles off, from whence the engines were immediately despatched with post horses, but arrived too late to do much good, though they were at work for a period of five hours. Out of twenty stacks of corn and hay on the premises, only one hay-stack was saved. No doubt is entertained of their being the work of incendiaries, but no clue has yet been obtained.—On Monday evening a fire was discovered in a wheat-shed on the premises of Mrs Smith, of Hemingford, Hunts. Owing to the speedy arrival of the engines, the damage was fortunately trifling. A young man, who had been seen lurking about the premises shortly before the fire, was taken up and committed to prison.—Another fire occurred in Hemingford Grey, on Thursday evening, within 600 yards of the spot mentioned above, on the premises of the Marchioness Townshend. A large hovel, containing straw, was entirely consumed, and an adjoining hay-stack was with difficulty saved.

INCENDIARY FIRES IN LINCOLNSHIRE.—Intelligence has reached town of two dreadful incendiary fires having taken place on the property of the Duke of Bedford, in the fens of Lincolnshire. The particulars of the outrages are not mentioned, but it is said that rick-yards to a large amount have been destroyed. The provincial papers record various other fires, more especially in Lincolnshire and Cambridge-shire.

FIRE AT KINGSWOOD.—An extensive and destructive fire occurred at Kingswood hill, near Bristol, on Tuesday evening se'nnight, when the warehouses and retail shop of Messrs Budgett were totally burned. The stock consumed consisted of refined sugar, cheese, coffee, and flour to the amount of £1,500. The firm is insured in the Phoenix and other offices in upwards of £8,000.

IGNITION OF COAL FROM FIREDAMP.—A short time since, a miner in the coal-pit of John Fitzgerald, Esq., at Pedleton, having lost or mislaid an axe, very imprudently went in search of it in a part of the pit not at present worked, taking with him a naked candle. There having been some accumulation of carburetted hydrogen gas in this part of the pit, the introduction of the lighted candle exploded it, burning the man and another individual, though, we believe not very severely. The explosion of the inflammable gas was followed by another consequence—the ignition of the coal in that part of the pit; and we understand that it continued burning on that and two following days; and, for anything we know to the contrary, may still be on fire. We believe it has only led to a partial stoppage of the working, the hands in other parts of the pit continuing their employment.—*Manchester Guardian.*

CHILD BURNING.—We have the painful duty of recording no less than four deaths of children, which have occurred during the last few days from the effects of fire. One took place in Pountney street, Wolverhampton; a second at Wednesfield, in Warwickshire; a third in Carrick street, Glasgow; and each of the accidents arose from the children being left alone in a room with a fire. The remaining case occurred in Catharine street, Glasgow. A little boy, three years old, while sitting at table, overbalanced a cup of boiling tea, and the contents having fallen into his bosom, the poor fellow lingered in great agony for a day or two, when death put a period to his sufferings.

ATROCIOUS MURDER.—A most atrocious and cold-blooded murder was committed on Sunday evening week in the neighbourhood of St Helen's, Lancashire. The victim is a young married woman, and the wife of a painter. On Sunday afternoon, the husband of the deceased went to church, and about five o'clock in the evening took his wife along with him for a walk. The direction they took from the town was up the Liverpool road; and about seven o'clock they called at a public house in Eccleston, where each had a glass of rum. Nothing more was seen of them in company; but about eight o'clock the husband, whose name is Wilbraham Buckley, went to the house at which he had been lodging, and inquired for his wife, stating that when at the top of Comb Shopbrow, nearly half a mile from St Helen's, he had occasion to leave his wife for a few minutes, and when he returned to where he expected to find her, she had gone, and had not since been seen by him. He made inquiries for her at another place where she was accustomed to call, but he could not find her, and went to bed, giving the parties with whom he lodged to understand that he imagined his wife must have gone to Ashton, where her mother lived, and he would follow her in the morning. This story did not appear improbable, for his wife was very far advanced in pregnancy, and her mother, as it was known, had invited her to Ashton, there to stop for her accouchment. Early on Monday morning Buckley left his lodgings for Ashton, and at a quarter before eight o'clock the body of his wife was found in a field at the top of Comb Shopbrow, with a dreadful wound inflicted in the throat—the wind-pipe and veins of the neck being completely divided. Pursuit was made after Buckley to Ashton, and on reaching St Helen's he was examined, and his shirt sleeves were steeped in blood almost up to the elbows. A knife with two blades was also found in his possession, but no stains of blood could be detected. Buckley strenuously denied his guilt, and stated that the stain upon his shirt was colouring which he had been using in his daily occupation. An inquest was held before Mr Haynes, the county coroner, and after a full investigation instituted, the jury without a moment's hesitation, returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against the prisoner, who was immediately after removed to Kirkdale gaol.

ATTEMPT TO THROW THE MAIL TRAIN OFF THE BIRKENHEAD RAILWAY.—On Tuesday evening last a most atrocious attempt was made to throw the London mail train off the above railway. At Heath lane bridge, near the Sutton station, a fearful concussion took place, and the cause of it being examined, there was found a large beam of wood, called a sleeper, about nine feet long, which had been placed in the ground, at an angle of 45 degrees, so as to cause the opposite end of it to come in contact with the engine, and it had actually penetrated the engine, but, most fortunately, not into the boiler, or it must have burst. As it happened, however, the injury to the train was not so extensive as to prevent its passing on to its destination. A labouring man, named John Moston, has been arrested on suspicion of having been concerned in this atrocious act.

A collision took place on the Mersey between the steamers Prince of Wales and Royal Victoria, on Wednesday last, nearly opposite the magazine. The damage on board the Royal Victoria was much more serious than that on board the Prince of Wales, as the latter drove into the engine-room of the other. Happily no person on board the

Prince of Wales was injured; but the concussion caused serious injury to several individuals in the Royal Victoria. Four or five individuals have been carried to the hospital, one of whom has already died of the injury which he suffered. Both vessels were got round and taken safely into dock.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

On the 29th ult. a fishing boat was capsized at the mouth of the Severn, between Penuchan and Crieceith, when seven persons unfortunately perished.

The town of Thetford, in Norfolk, has been thrown into a state of unpleasant ferment during the last few days, in consequence of a solicitor, hitherto considered of the highest respectability, having suddenly absconded, leaving liabilities incurred by him to the amount, it is supposed, at the lowest, of 20,000*l.* He had appointed Friday last for meeting some heavy mortgage accounts, and for handing over the amount for a farm which he had recently purchased; and his non-appearance on that and the following days, led to the above unpleasant discovery. His absence has almost created a panic in the neighbourhood, as, from his extensive transactions in mortgages, conveyances, and other monetary matters, it is impossible to calculate at present the extent of his defalcations.—*Times.*

IRELAND.

The accounts received from Ireland are of the most distressing character, as the following facts will abundantly testify.

MURDER OF A MAGISTRATE.—Letters from Dublin bring an account of the murder of James Scully, Esq., of Kilfeacle, county of Tipperary. Mr Scully was fired at last spring, whilst reading in the parlour of his residence, and was so dangerously wounded that his life was for some time despaired of. On Saturday last, this gentleman was shooting in the immediate vicinity of Kilfeacle, and was in the act of firing at a bird, when a shot was discharged at himself, from the effect of which he fell wounded and bleeding on the field. Two men were observed at once to rush forward, and to trample violently upon the body of the unfortunate gentleman, which the assassins did not quit until life was extinct. On the occasion of the previous attempt upon the life of Mr Scully, it was stated that he had had some differences with a portion of his tenantry, but the exact particulars did not transpire. Mr Scully was the eldest son of the late Dennis Scully, Esq., the author of "A Treatise on the Penal Code," who, being a Roman catholic, had taken a remarkable part in the early struggle for emancipation. This revolting deed of blood, adds the *Reporter*, has created a strong and a wide-spread sensation. Mr Scully was the proprietor of one of the finest estates in the county of Tipperary; he was also a grand juror and a magistrate of that county. It is said that he was not indulgent to some of the tenantry who held under him, and that he had them recently served with ejectments, to which cause his murder is generally attributed, as well as the attempt made in April on his life. A proclamation, offering a reward of £200 for the apprehension of the murderers, has been issued by the Lord-lieutenant of Ireland. In addition to the above, government has offered a reward of £80 in two several cases of murder, one of which was perpetrated in Queen's, the other in King's county.

ANOTHER MURDER.—Another barbarous murder was committed on Wednesday night, in the neighbourhood of Green Hall; and on the following night (Thursday) an attempt—fortunately a failure—was made to murder Mr Baxter (the land-agent of Mrs Finch) in the Nenagh road.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER A CLERGYMAN.—The *Limerick Chronicle* states, that on Friday evening last some men, with faces blackened, attacked Nantenant glebe-house, the residence of the Rev. Mr Coghlan. They dragged the rev. gentleman to the door, forced him on his knees, and threatened to shoot him if he did not deliver up his fire-arms. He was then compelled to give them a double-barreled pistol, being the only weapon of defence in his possession. The gang, which consisted of twelve persons, then decamped. The same band, it is supposed, attacked the house of a man named James Neil on the same night, and robbed him of his fire-arms.

INCENDIARISM.—A correspondent of the *Tipperary Free Press* writes from Cashel as follows:—"I regret to have to inform you that an agrarian outrage was perpetrated at the mile stone, Caher road, on the night of the 26th Oct., about nine o'clock. A farm house lately taken by the Rev. Mr Conway, O. S. D., with the free will of the late proprietor, was burned by some unknown incendiary. Mr John White is agent over the property (a part of Mr Smith Barry's estate); and several tenants on the same lands are said to have been served with ejectment processes. Very fortunately there has been no loss of human life, although a tenant's wife and three young children were in bed when the outrage took place."

SCOTLAND.

THE PROVOST OF EDINBURGH.—The unfortunate Sir James Forrest has had many trials to undergo since he made himself contemptible by his eager retention of office two years ago. Now, these have been crowned by a vote of censure, which was passed upon him on Tuesday, in the Edinburgh town council, in consequence of the manner in which he had acted lately, when presiding at a dinner to ex-Bailie Johnston. The vote was carried by 18 to 10. Will his Lordship resign now?

BUTESHIRE ELECTION.—On Thursday, at noon, the Hon. J. Wortley Stuart was elected member of parliament for the county of Bute, without opposition. He was proposed by James Hamilton, Esq., of Kames, and seconded by Baron M'Kay.

HOLYROOD PALACE AND THE KING'S PARK.—It is some time since we adverted to a report, that the government had it seriously in contemplation to remove all the nuisances which harbour round the ancient palace of Holyrood, and to trim and beautify the royal park adjoining thereto. We at the same time stated, that it was intended to change the hereditary keepership of the park. This rumour we are glad to see borne out by a notice of an intended application to parliament, to enable the commissioners of Woods and Forests to carry out the proposed arrangement.—*Edinburgh Observer.*

THE PRESENT DRY SEASON.—A circumstance of a novel kind points out, in a remarkable manner, the long continued drought which has prevailed during the last summer and autumn, and which, indeed, has very little abated yet. The salmon cannot get up the tributaries of the Forth to the spawning beds, for want of water. Accordingly,

they may be seen in great numbers lying in the deep pools of Allen, like stones on the bottom, where they are regularly watched to protect them from the attacks of poachers.—*Stirling Observer*.

AYRSHIRE COLLIERS' STRIKE.—The strike still continues, but is languishing, being supported by small supplies of money from the colliers in the neighbourhood of Glasgow. The men are narrowly watched by the police, and the yeomanry are still a-foot. None of the individuals who absconded, and are supposed to have been engaged in the murder of Dawson, are as yet apprehended. Hugh O'Neill, one of the nine men in custody, died a day or two ago of typhus fever.—*Scottish Guardian of Friday*.

TRADE IN GALASHIELS.—This spirited town is thriving amazingly just now, having more orders for shawls, mantelings, and tweeds, than it can well execute. Not a boy or girl is to be seen about the streets—all are employed.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GEOGRAPHICAL STATISTICS OF CHINA.—The importance of the great events that have recently transpired in China render everything connected with that vast empire at the present time a subject of interest. We therefore give the following physical characteristics of the country, abridged from the *Spectator* of Saturday:—The speedy submission of the Chinese government as soon as Ching-kiang-foo was taken and Nankin threatened, is perfectly intelligible when we consider the relation of these places to the capital. Ching-kiang-foo is situated on the southern bank of the Yang-tse-kiang, about 170 miles above Woosung, and 48 below Nankin. This river is a mile and a half across at Ching-kiang-foo; and the British ships of war have ascended as high as Nankin. The southern section of the Great canal, which extends nearly 1,000 miles from north to south through China, joins the Yang-tse-kiang in the suburbs of Ching-kiang-foo. The northern section of the canal strikes off from the opposite side of Yang-tse-kiang, about a mile or two further up the stream. The province of Petcheli, in which Peking is situated, is not fertile; and the delta land through which the canal passes, between the Yang-tse-kiang and the Hoangho, is from its excess of moisture little productive. Almost immediately north of Peking rises the high and sterile table land of Central Asia. The supplies of grain, rice, tea, and other provisions for the capital, are drawn either from the fertile lands in the great basin of the Yang-tse-kiang, or from the provinces to which access is obtained by the section of the canal which is to the south of that river. As soon as the British fleet occupied Ching-kiang-foo and the river in the direction of Nankin, it commanded the entrance to the northern section of the canal, and could at any time cut off the supplies for the capital which descend the Yang-tse-kiang or are brought along the canal south of the river. Shanghai, so lately the scene of an obstinate engagement between the British forces and the Chinese, and which was taken by our troops, is situated on the Yang-tse-kiang, about twelve miles above Woosung. The river is navigable for steam boats forty-seven miles higher up, to the point where it issues from the small lake on the south of the canal. Chapoo, the town taken by the British immediately before the attack upon Woosung, is on the north side of the gulf of Che-kiang, about midway between its north cape and its innermost recess. Shanghai is the great emporium of the trade of this district with the tea provinces on the south, with the province of Shantung and the coast of the Mantchoo Tartars on the north. Chapoo has (or at least had in 1832, according to Gutzlaff) the monopoly of the trade with Japan, Canton, and the Chinese settlements in the eastern Archipelago. Between Ching-kiang-foo on the Yang-tse-kiang and Hang-choo-foo, at the southern termination of the canal, are the great cities of Changchow-foo and Soo-choo-foo. The gentlemen on Lord Macartney's embassy describe the former as a large and wealthy trading town; they were three hours in passing through the latter; and its numerous canals, and the rich colours of its wealthy abodes, reminded the beholders of Venice. The shops of Hang-choo-foo were compared by the Jesuits to those of London; and its population was compared by the Jesuits, towards the close of the seventeenth century, with that of Paris. The Chinese ports thrown open to us by the treaty, in addition to Canton, are—1. Amoy, about 24 degrees 27 minutes N. latitude; an excellent harbour, with a numerous and wealthy trading population. 2. Foo-choo-foo, the capital of the province of Foo-kiang, is about thirty miles above Hoo-kiang, the anchoring place at the mouth of the Min: the Lord Amherst sailed up the river to the city in 1832. The population can scarcely be under 400,000. The best tea plantations are in the interior of Foo-kiang; and Foo-choo-foo is the emporium of the black tea trade. The principal articles of export are tea, timber for building, tobacco, and cotton. 3. Ningpo (where the British had a factory till 1759) is situated on the Tahae river, about fourteen miles above its embouchure on the south side of the gulf, and south-west of Chusan. Lindsay assigns to it between 200,000 and 300,000 inhabitants. 4. Shanghai, the position and trade of which have been noticed above. The climate at Shanghai and Ningpo, the most northerly of these ports, is oppressively hot in summer; but the winters are very severe, and woolen cloths in great demand. The currents in the estuary of the Yang-tse-kiang, among the small islands of the Chusan group, and along the intervening shores are strong, complicated, and as yet but imperfectly known. The British troops are to occupy the line of the Yang-tse-kiang till the first six millions of dollars are paid. They are to occupy Chinghai at the mouth of the Tahai (the river of Ningpo), and the islands of Chusan and Kolangsoo not far from Amoy, till the whole twenty-one millions be paid.

A CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO ENGLAND.—Only think what a sensation a real live mandarin would create among all and sundry the ladies patronesses of the last new monster that may chance to show his face, or his pigtail, as the case may be, in the world of London! Yet such an event would not seem altogether improbable, if reliance may be placed on the following extract of a letter from a naval officer in China, dated towards the end of August:—"On the 29th, all was signed by the commissioners, and a private ratification in the Emperor's hand to the same. He therein expresses that he takes it as a compliment his own signature had been demanded, is highly satisfied with all arrangements, and has asked, if he should send a mandarin to the British court, would he be well received? The admiral, it is said, has replied, that should he wish to do so, a frigate should be placed at his service,

and of course he would be well received." The same authority repeats, that consular officers are to be established at the ports of Canton, Amoy, Fow-choo-foo, Ningpo, and Shanghai, which are to be thrown open to British merchants, and that a regular and just tariff of imports and exports, as well as of transit duties, is to be established and published.—*Standard*.

WINTER PROSPECTS.—A weather-wise correspondent of a provincial paper holds out to us the prospect of being able, during the coming winter, to roast an ox on the Thames. He says, "The most severe winters in Great Britain are when the cold planet Saturn is traversing Capricorn, when we have protracted frost and snow storms of two or three months long, as was the case in 1784, 1785, and 1814. The years corresponding with the years 1784 and 1785 (remarkable for winters of unusual severity), are 1843 and 44; but more particularly severe upon the last, since upon the year 1844 the deficiency of the years 1842 and 43 will fall with the greatest effect—a season which promises to exceed in cold, frost, snow, &c., any winter within the last thirty years."

A HUMAN VOICE AUTOMATON.—A mechanic of a little town in Bohemia, says the *Constitutionnel*, has constructed an automaton which imitates perfectly the human voice, particularly the soprano notes. It sings several difficult airs with the greatest accuracy. Shakes, runs, and chromatic scales, are all executed with surprising precision. This automaton, in singing, even pronounces certain words, so as to be easily understood! The inventor hopes to arrive at such a point of perfection, as to bring his machine to pronounce all the words of the best operas. He intends shortly making a journey to Prague and Vienna, to give concerts, and from thence to Paris and the other cities of Europe. (We wonder what language this *lusus machine* uses in his vocal effusions?)

THE PRESS.—A press which violates the sanctity of truth, and lends itself to unrighteous uses, is a disgrace to the community which gives it support, and which cannot long endure its presence without feeling its disastrous influence. If men sit beneath the shade of the poison-tree, they cannot but enshrine its noxious atmosphere. The press should be consecrated to intelligence and virtue; but if, instead of the service which it may render to the highest interests of man, it condescends to become the pander of his prejudices and the slave of his passions—to do the scavenger work of a party in the unclean ways of falsehood and calumny, it deserves only scorn and reprobation. An independent press is a blessing to a land, but a vagabond or a hireling press is a nuisance. The independence of the press! much talked about, but little exemplified, and probably little understood. It does not consist in recklessness of assertion or violence of language, in gross misrepresentation and grosser assault on character; but in maintaining itself above the fluctuations of opinion in the serene heaven of truth and principle, in trying political theories and measures by the standard of a pure morality, in bursting the current of popular or party sentiment when it runs towards evil, and in advocating the right though it has few to speak on its behalf. Why cannot we have a press that shall exhibit this character? Ought it not to exist in a Christian nation?—*Extract from a Sermon by Ezra S. Garnett of Massachusetts*.

THE SLAVERY OF CONVENTIONALISM.—"Ah, monsieur, you English are a curious people! * * * Of your physical courage no one will doubt—your victories abroad have long proved that—but your moral courage at home is very doubtful. You consent to be governed by a number of conventional laws, made by what you call the fashionable world, which you all dislike, and not only acknowledge there is no sense in it, but that they are most inconveniently nonsensical. * * * You submit to customs which entail, not only a useless expense in your households, but are highly injurious to your fortunes—give you pain rather than pleasure—because your neighbours do it. * * * When I was last in England, I observed the great trouble the lady of the house took in the arrangement of the table. There must be an equal number of dishes—one must match the other; and what with putting on and taking off, the arms of the servants were constantly over your shoulders. Then the cloth is to be taken off, and all the things upon it. I never saw the lamps and candlesticks removed without expecting to be set on fire by one, or covered with oil from the other. Then your late hours!—all complain of them. Many have declared to me, they leave their country and live abroad on account of them. Now will you not acknowledge that you are slaves?—*Lady Vavasour's Last Tour*.

FLUENCY OF SPEECH.—The common fluency of speech in many men, and in most women, is owing to a scarcity of matter and a scarcity of words; for whoever is master of language and has a mind full of ideas, will be apt, in speaking, to hesitate in the choice of both, whereas common speakers have only one set of ideas, and one set of words to clothe them in, and these are always ready at the mouth; so people come faster out of a church when it is almost empty, than when a crowd is at the door.—*Swift*.

A HINT.—We read in the Roman history that an intention was entertained in the reign of Augustus of compelling all slaves to wear a certain and uniform clothing, in order that their condition in life might be at once known. This intention was laid aside lest the slaves should become acquainted with their own strength. Out of every six adult males in England, five are slaves, or serfs, having no voice in making laws, and being compelled to bow to the will of, in many cases, tyrant masters. Let them adopt a uniform.

PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY.—What becomes of all the pins? says a paper involving some singular points of manufacturing economy. It appears from Professor Parrington that twenty millions of pins are daily manufactured in this country. These get into general circulation, and, after a time, entirely disappear; but the remarkable fact is, that, like the swallows, nobody knows where they go to. It is proved that, were it possible to recall these lost articles, a quantity might be collected sufficient to build the projected foot bridge at Hungerford market, and the residue might be cast into one enormous Pin, which should be erected as a column in any part of London best suited for its elevation; and to be called Victoria's Pin, in opposition to Cleopatra's Needle at Alexandria. There would be a winding staircase in the interior, with a saloon in its head; and it might serve as a land-mark, in stormy weather, for the fourpenny steam-boats plying between Vauxhall and London-bridge.—*Punch*.

The treaty of peace with China will leave disposable a large land and sea force. A private letter from Bombay mentions, that Sir Henry Pottinger had proposed to take advantage of these means, and to proceed to Japan, and demand satisfaction for the long-continued insults we have endured from the Emperor, and to require admission for our ships to those islands on terms of mutual mercantile advantage. We cannot say how far our correspondent's information may prove correct, but we have heard that this is not the first time the matter has been proposed to government. The cruelties exercised against the crews of vessels wrecked on these islands demand that some steps should be taken; and no more favourable opportunity has been afforded than the presence of our ships and troops in China, from which they can easily be directed upon Jeddo, and other ports in Japan.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

The Palermo correspondent of the *Allgemeine Zeitung* says, that the reduction in the export duty on sulphur has been received throughout Sicily with the greatest satisfaction. About 1,200,000 cantari (100,000 English tons) were lying at Palermo ready for exportation, and it was thought, as the majority of the holders were distressed for money, that nearly the whole would be immediately thrown upon the foreign markets, which would probably cause a great depression of price, and consequently neutralise, in a great measure, the effect of the reduced duty.

An "occasional correspondent" of the *Morning Post* at Paris avers, that the representatives of England, Austria, and Prussia, have formally declared to the French cabinet that the commercial union between France and Belgium would be considered by the great powers as a violation of the treaty of London, which proclaimed the neutrality and independence of Belgium; and have announced their intention of combining to defeat such a measure. A courier was expected from Russia to instruct its representative to join in the protest.

The *United Service Gazette* says that a reduction of the army is to be made, particularly of the recently increased establishment of infantry corps; with a further reduction should the treaty of Nankin be observed and the Affghan affair brought to a close.

On Monday afternoon five brass cannon, captured by the British during the Chinese war (happily just terminated), arrived in a barge from the Royal arsenal at Woolwich, and were landed on the Tower wharf. Four of the guns are of large calibre, one of them being a 68-pounder, and the bore about 20 inches. All of them are splendid specimens of workmanship, and they do not appear to have seen much service.

The Belgian Chamber of Representatives has terminated the discussion on the bill for sanctioning the treaty concluded with Spain. It was adopted unanimously, with the exception of a single vote.

On the 22nd of September, a fire broke out in the town of Nowosil, in the government of Pula, by which, the wind being very high, forty houses with all the outbuildings, and thirty-six merchants' warehouses were destroyed.

We regret to learn that Lord Hill, after recovering from his last illness in London, since he has been at Hardwick, his seat near this town, has suffered a relapse. His illness was first occasioned by too anxious and unremitting attention to his official duties. On Wednesday last, his lordship rallied, and had a better night's rest.—*Shrewsbury Paper.*

Such has been the abundance of cod fish during the past week, that on Friday last very fine fresh fish were to be bought at the rate of 2d. a lb!

The population of Prince Edward's island has, during the last twenty-two years, increased from 18,000 to 47,000, upon 1,300,000 acres of land, the contents of the island.

The executor of the late Marquis Wellesley, a short time since, sent to the British Museum upwards of three waggons loads of MSS. and books, in compliance with the will of the noble Marquis.

We find the following in a letter from Odessa:—"Our government seems to be seriously disposed to grant emancipation to the Jews, whose numbers in Russia, according to the last census, amounted to about 2,200,000.

Government has in contemplation to remove all the nuisances which harbour round the ancient palace of Holyrood, to trim and beautify the Royal park adjoining thereto, and to change the hereditary keepership of the park.

A correspondent informs us that an auctioneer in this neighbourhood is under engagement to sell up twenty-six farmers on as many consecutive days.—*Bolton Free Press.*

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

MISSIONARY FROM IRELAND.—On Tuesday week, the Rev. William Graham, the General Assembly's first missionary to Palestine, took his departure for Liverpool in the steamer *Falcon*, on his way to London, whence he will sail on the 1st December, in the Mediterranean steamer *Oriental*, for Alexandria.

TABERNACLE, MOORFIELDS, AND TOTTENHAM COURT CHAPEL.—The Rev. J. W. Richardson, of Sunderland, has received and accepted a unanimous call to the co-pastorship of the churches and congregations assembling in these venerable places of worship, and is expected to enter upon his new sphere of labour on the 11th inst. Mr Richardson will have the more immediate charge of Tottenham court chapel, alternating however, with Dr Campbell in the pulpits of both chapels. During fourteen years, Dr Campbell has borne the entire pastoral charge, assisted only in his pulpit labours by the well-known system of "supplies." Now, however, that he is about to have associated with him a permanent coadjutor, who enjoys the unanimous suffrages of the two churches and the two congregations, with the managers and the deacons of the respective places, the "supplies" will be dispensed with; and the entire work, ministerial as well as pastoral, be performed by Dr Campbell and his colleague.

WORCESTER.—The recognition service, in connexion with the coming of the Rev. C. Lee, to the Countess of Huntingdon's chapel, Bridport street, in this city, was held on Tuesday night, in that place of worship. The Rev. W. Crowe, minister of Silver street baptist chapel, read the 4th chapter of Ephesians, and prayed; the Rev. Mr Jones of Birmingham, gave the charge to the newly-appointed pastor, from the 20th chapter of the Acts, 28th verse; the Rev. D. Redford (minister of Angel street independent chapel) addressed the church

upon the words "Encourage him," (Deut. i. 38); the Rev. Mr. Harris (who has been supplying at Bridport chapel for some time) then addressed the congregation, from James i. 22; and the Rev. Mr Cox of London, offered the closing prayer. The services were interesting and profitable, but somewhat protracted.

ANDOVER, HANTS.—The Rev. Thomas Applegate, late missionary to the Bahamas, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the baptist church, Andover, Hants, and proposes entering upon his stated labours the first Sabbath in January.

GUERNSEY.—The Rev. S. Spurgeon, late of Carmarthenshire, has accepted an unanimous invitation to the pastoral office, from the baptist church assembling in Wesley road chapel, Guernsey.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Tuesday last, the Rev. J. Gage Pigg, B.A., of Highbury college, was ordained pastor of the congregational church assembling at Queen street chapel, in this town. The services were of a very interesting and impressive character. The introductory discourse on the "Nature and Constitution of a church of Christ," was delivered by the Rev. T. East of Birmingham. The usual questions were then proposed by the Rev. J. Barber of Bridgnorth, in reply to which, J. Barker, Esq., stated, on behalf of the church, the circumstances which had led to the settlement of the pastor among them; and Mr Pigg delivered a concise summary of his religious views and principles. The Rev. T. R. Barker, classical tutor of Spring hill college, Birmingham, then offered the ordination prayer, imploring, with much earnestness and affection, the divine blessing on behalf of the pastor and his people. The Rev. E. Henderson, D.D., Ph.D., professor of theology and the oriental languages in Highbury college, then delivered an admirable charge to the minister, from 1 Tim. iii. 15; "That thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." The Revs J. Pernie, F. Watts (Spring hill college), J. Hill, A.M.,—Webb (Wesleyan), F. Allsopp, J. Hammond, J. C. Galloway, A.M., S. Jackson, and W. S. Dyer, likewise took part in the services of the day.

LINDFIELD, SUSSEX.—Mr J. C. Judson, of Hackney college, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the independent church and congregation at this place, late under the pastoral care of the Rev. John Chater, and intends commencing his pastoral labours, Sunday, January 1st, 1843.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, Nov. 24th, an interesting service was held in the baptist chapel, New road, Oxford; when Mr Neale and Mr Best, who have for some time been engaged in the department of home missionary labour, in connexion with the baptist church under the pastoral care of the Rev. B. Godwin, in the city of Oxford, were publicly designated to their spheres of useful labour. The Rev. Mr Gurting, of Newport, commenced the service by reading and prayer, and the Rev. E. Jones, independent minister of Oxford, delivered a very impressive introductory discourse. The usual questions were then proposed to Messrs Best and Neale, and briefly and satisfactorily answered. The designation prayer was offered by the Rev. B. Godwin, who also delivered to the missionaries a very affectionate and faithful charge, founded upon Col. iv. 17.

TAVISTOCK.—The Rev. Henry Solly has accepted the pastoral charge of the Abbey chapel congregation, Tavistock.

MARRIAGE AND DESIGNATION OF A MISSIONARY.—On Tuesday, Nov. 29th, the Rev. W. Knight Rycroft was publicly designated as a missionary to the Bahamas, West Indies, in connexion with the Baptist Missionary society, at the Old baptist chapel, Rushden, Northamptonshire. The designation service was preceded by the solemnisation of marriage between Mr Rycroft and Miss Deborah Bates, daughter of Mr J. Bates, of Upper Dean, Beds. The interesting ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. Whittemore—Mrs R's pastor, and minister of the place. The more general services of the day commenced by reading the scriptures and prayer, by the Rev. T. Phillips, of Earl's Barton; the Rev. J. Burton, formerly missionary at the Bahamas, described the sphere and nature of Mr Rycroft's contemplated missionary engagements; the Rev. G. Hall, of Carlton, proposed the usual questions, and received from Mr R. a concise and satisfactory statement of his religious experience, exercise of mind in reference to the missionary work, and his confession of faith. Mr Allam, deacon of the baptist church at Chatteris, bore most decided and honourable testimony to the Christian character and ministerial zeal and fidelity of Mr Rycroft; the Rev. B. C. Young, of Thrapston, offered the designation prayer; the Rev. W. Robinson, of Kettering, delivered the valedictory charge, from Acts xiii. 1, 2; and the Rev. J. Waleot, of Stanwick, concluded by prayer. Previous to the evening service Mrs Rycroft was (in the name and on the behalf of the church assembling in the place) publicly presented with a copy of "Cobbin's Condensed Commentary," by Mrs Whittemore, who at the request of the church addressed Mrs R. on her new and interesting position and engagements. In the evening a sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Simmons, A.M., of Olney, from Ps. lxxii. 19, 20, the devotional parts of the service being conducted by the Rev. Messrs Rycroft and Brooks. The Rev. J. Whittemore concluded these interesting and solemn services by specially commending to God the family and church of which Mrs Rycroft is a beloved and valued member.

MARRIAGE.

Dec. 5, at the baptist chapel, Ridgmount, Beds., by the Rev. J. H. Brooks, Mr JOSEPH DAY, to Mrs SARAH WALKER, both of Ridgmount.

DEATHS.

Nov. 30, at Bristol, aged 62, Mr JAMES WILLIAMS, of Lawrence hill.
Dec. 3, in Portland place, The Right Hon. the COUNTESS OF MUNSTER.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, Dec. 2.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

BROOKE, THOMAS, LANG, JOSEPH, WILBY, JOSEPH, and MILNES, JONAS, Liversidge, Yorkshire, blanket manufacturers.
LANG, JOHN, ARMITAGE, SAMUEL, REDFEARN, RICHARD, and SYKES JOHN, Liversidge, Yorkshire, blanket manufacturers.

BANKRUPTS.

ALLEN, THOMAS, Macclesfield, silkman, Dec. 6: solicitors, Messrs Brundett and Co., Inner Temple, London, and Mr Thompson, Glossop.
BOND, WILLIAM HENZLEY, Kingswinford, wine merchant, Dec. 13, Jan. 11: solicitor Mr Collis, Stourbridge.

BRADBURY, CHARLES ANDREW, Stockport, draper, Dec. 10, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr Baddeley, Stockport.

CALDICOTT, THOMAS, Newport, Monmouthshire, grocer, Dec. 16, Jan. 13: solicitor, Mr Leman, Bristol.

COULSELL, RICHARD, Milton next Gravesend, victualer, Dec. 12, Jan. 16: solicitor, Mr Southgate, 10, Gray's inn place, London.

CUNNINGTON JOHN, Newport, Monmouthshire, builder, Dec. 19, Jan. 16: solicitors, Messrs Hall and Jenkins, Newport.

ELLIS, JOHN, Mansfield, brush maker, Dec. 14, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs Payne and Co., Leeds.

FIELDER, THOMAS, Brewer street, Somers' town, baker, Dec. 9, Jan. 13: solicitor, Mr Weir, Coopers' hall, Basinghall street, London.

GREEN, WILLIAM, Birmingham, cabinet case maker, Dec. 9, Jan. 10: solicitor, Mr Gidley, Earl street, Blackfriars, London.

HEATHCOTE, ROBERT, Manchester, victualer, Dec. 12, Jan. 9: solicitors, Messrs Gregory and Co., Bedford row, London, and Mr Chew, Manchester.

HEDGMAN, JAMES, 218, High Holborn, dealer in leather, Dec. 13, Jan. 18: solicitor, Mr Taylor, 3, Finsbury terrace, City road, London.

HOLT, WILLIAM, Mansfield, Hatter, Dec. 17, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs Parsons and Bees, Mansfield.

JONES, THOMAS, Glyn, Merionethshire, cattle salesman, Dec. 13, Jan. 24: solicitors, Messrs Mallaby and Townsend, Liverpool, and Messrs Williams and Breese, Portmadoc.

MARSDEN, THOMAS, jun., Northallerton, mercer, Dec. 14, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr Anderson, York.

NAIRN, WILLIAM, and LISTON, JAMES, Tower royal, Watling street, linen manufacturers, Dec. 8, Jan. 12: solicitor, Mr Cox, Bucklersbury, London.

PARKER, SAMUEL, Egyptian hall, Piccadilly, lamp manufacturer, Dec. 9, Jan. 13: solicitors, Messrs Tyas, 13, Beaufort buildings, Strand, London.

THORNLEY, BETTY, Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire, grocer, Dec. 20, Jan. 19: solicitors, Messrs Bower and Back, Chancery lane, London, and Mr Ferns, Stockport.

TUCKETT, HARVEY GARNET PHIPPS, Poultry, City, merchant, Dec. 8, Jan. 16: solicitors, Messrs Lawrence and Blenkarne, 32, Bucklersbury, London.

WINTER, ISAAC, late of Boxmoor, and afterwards of Chesham, common brewer, Dec. 15, Jan. 13: solicitor, Mr Steele, 1, Lincoln's inn fields, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

DAVIS, JOHN, Edinburgh, optician, Dec. 7, 30.

MACDONALD, ALEXANDER, Glasgow, hosier, Dec. 12, Jan. 9.

MACFARLANE, GEORGE, Glasgow, merchant, Dec. 8, 29.

SHANKS, GAVIN, Rawyards, Airdrie, wright, Dec. 9, 29.

THOMSON, JOHN, Airdrie, grocer, Dec. 10, Jan. 7.

Tuesday, December 6.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

Providence chapel, Bath. Christian Brown, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

FISHER, TIMOTHY, Camden Arms, Camden town, victualer.

BANKRUPTS.

ARCHER, JAMES, Liverpool, wine merchant, Dec. 16 and Jan. 27: solicitor, Mr Bretherton, Liverpool.

BASTICK, SAMUEL, Brighton, Sussex, hatter, Dec. 13, Jan. 17: solicitors, Messrs Horwood and Griffin, 27, Austin friars, City.

BLOOMENTHAL, ISIDORE, 6 and 13, Thornton street, Dockhead, wholesale stationer, Dec. 9, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr Jones, Sise lane, London.

BOSS, SAMUEL, Frith street, Soho, tailor, Dec. 14, Jan. 25: solicitor, Mr Stafford, Buckingham street, Strand.

DAVIES, JOHN, Wellington, Shropshire, plumber, Dec. 14 and Jan. 17: solicitor, Mr G. Bradley, Wellington.

DAVIS, EDWARD, Great Crosby, Lancashire, blacksmith, Dec. 21, Jan. 19: solicitor, Mr Henry Cross, Liverpool.

ELLISTON, HENRY TWISTLETON, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, music seller, Dec. 21 and Jan. 11: Messrs W. and C. Russell, Leamington.

EVANS, THOMAS, Denbigh, scrivener, Dec. 21, Feb. 1: solicitor, Mr Deane, Liverpool.

HILLIAR, JAMES, Lymington, Southampton, innkeeper, Dec. 29, Jan. 16: solicitors, Messrs Foster and Co., 28, John street, Bedford row.

HOARE, WILLIAM, late of Derby, but now of Alstonfield, Staffordshire, apothecary, Dec. 16 and Jan. 13: solicitor, Mr S. G. Smith, Derby.

MEREDITH, JAMES, Pershore, Worcestershire, woolstapler, Dec. 14, Jan. 13: solicitors, Messrs Oldaker and Co., Pershore.

PORTWAY, GEORGE, Birmingham, metal refiner, Dec. 15, Jan. 12: solicitor, Mr William Henry Reece, Birmingham.

RYLAND, WILLIAM, Liverpool, tanner, Dec. 15, Jan. 24: solicitors, Messrs Branner and Atkinson, Liverpool.

ROBINSON, JOHN BULTON, and ROBINSON, WILLIAM, Macclesfield, Cheshire, ironmongers, Dec. 17 and Jan. 19: solicitor, Mr John Cole, 4, Adelphi terrace, Strand, London.

SPENCE, THOMAS, Stratford, Essex, market gardener, Dec. 13, Jan. 17: solicitor, Mr Bedman, Queen street chambers, Cheapside.

WATHEW, CHARLES WILLIAM, 29, Poultry, City, chemist, Dec. 15, Jan. 16: solicitor, Mr Henderson, 28, Mansell street, Goodman's fields.

WHITEHALL, JOHN, Wellington, Shropshire, innkeeper, Dec. 14, Jan. 17: solicitor, Mr Garbett, Wellington.

WICKS, JACOB, Trowbridge and Hawkeridge, Wiltshire, clothier, Dec. 23 and Jan. 20: solicitor, Mr Brent, Trowbridge.

WORBOYS, GEORGE BADDELEY, Bristol, perfumer, Dec. 12 and Jan. 17: solicitor, Mr J. Hinton, Bristol.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CARSWELL, WILLIAM, jun., and YOUNGER, THOMAS, Glasgow, wrights, Dec. 9, 30.

FOGO, DAVID, Esq., Row, Perthshire, Dec. 14, Jan. 10.

HILL, EDWARD, Annan, writer, Dec. 12, Jan. 6.

JOHNSTON, MAGNUS, Swannay, Orkney, Dec. 14, Jan. 4.

MALCOLM, GEORGE, Glasgow, wine merchant, Dec. 10, 30.

SCOTT, JAMES, SCOTT, ANDREW, and SCOTT, GILBERT, Hawick, millwrights, Dec. 10, 30.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The news from the East Indies and China has tended to give a firmer tone to the stock market, and there is also a greater desire to purchase.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	94½	94½	—	—	—	—
Ditto for opening	—	—	93½	94	94½	94½
3 per cents. Reduced	94	94	94½	94½	94½	94½
3½ per cents. Reduced	100½	100½	101	101	101	101
New 3½ per cent.	101½	101½	101½	101½	—	—
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	172	171½	171½	172	172	172½
India Stock	266	265	266	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	51 pm	50 pm	51 pm	52 pm	52 pm	52 pm
India Bonds, 3 per cent.	50 pm	48 pm	—	47 pm	—	—

SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton	35½
Birmingham and Derby	—	London and Croydon Trunk ..	9½
Birmingham and Gloucester	45½	London and Greenwich	5½
Blackwall	5½	Ditto New	15
Bristol and Exeter	45	Manchester and Birmingham ..	—
Cheltenham and Gt. Western	—	Manchester and Leeds	69½
Eastern Counties	9	Midland Counties	62½
Edinburgh and Glasgow	—	Ditto Quarter Shares	—
Great North of England	58	North Midland	62½
Great Western	88	Ditto New	—
Ditto New	63½	South Eastern and Dover	21½
Ditto Fifties	82	South Western	60½
London and Birmingham	187½	Ditto New	—
Ditto Quarter Shares	48		

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	14	Mexican	30½
Belgian	—	Peruvian	17½
Brazilian	67	Portuguese 5 per cents	37½
Buenos Ayres	23	Ditto 3 per cents	23½
Columbian	21½	Russian	112½
Danish	83½	Spanish Active	18½
Dutch 2½ per cents	52½	Ditto Passive	4
Ditto 5 per cents	101	Ditto Deferred	10½

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, Dec. 5.

The supply of wheat was moderate, and the condition of the samples was more or less affected by the damp state of the weather; some difficulty was consequently experienced in obtaining last week's prices, except for the finest descriptions. Barley was very unsaleable, and where sales were forced a reduction in price had to be submitted to.

In oats no material change occurred.

Beans and peas were in good supply, and 1s. to 2s. per quarter cheaper.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Wheat, Red New	45	to	51	Malt, Ordinary	42	to	52	Beans, Pigeon	32	to	34
Fine	48	to	54	Pale	54	to	58	Harrow	30	to	32
White	46	to	50	Peas, Hog	29	to	31	Oats, Feed	17	to	20
Fine	50	to	56	Maple	31	to	33	Fine	—	to	22
Rye	32	to	36	Boilers	33	to	35	Poland	21	to	24
Barley	22	to	26	Beans, Ticks	27	to	29	Potato	21	to	24
Malting	30	to	33								

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR DEC. 2.	AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF SIX WEEKS.	DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR THE PRESENT WEEK.
Wheat 49s. 6d.	Wheat 49s. 5d.	Wheat 20s. 0d.
Barley 28 1	Barley 28 3	Barley 9 0
Oats 17 9	Oats 17 10	Oats 8 0
Rye 32 2	Rye 31 8	Rye 10 6
Beans 31 4	Beans 31 10	Beans 10 6
Peas 33 7	Peas 33 9	Peas 9 6

SEEDS.

There was a fair supply of canaryseed, and the value of this article was barely supported. In other species of seeds the operations were unimportant, and quotations remained nominally unvaried.

Linseed, English, sowing	48s. to 56s. per qr	Coriander	10s. to 16s. per wt
Baltic, ditto	—	Old	16 18
Ditto, crushing	42 45	Canary, new	68 70
Mediter. and Odessa	45 46	Extra	71 72
Clover, English, red	— per cwt.	Caraway, old	—
Ditto, white	—	New	42 44
Flemish, red	—	Mustard, brown, new	10 11prbush.
Ditto, white	—	White	10 10 6
New Hamburg, red	—	Trefoil	18 22
Ditto, white	—	Rye grass, English	30 42
Old Hamburg, red	—	Scotch	18 40
Ditto, white	—	Tares, winter	— per qr
French, red	—	New	5 6prbush.
Ditto, white	—	Rapeseed, English, new	31½ 33½pr last
Hempseed, small	35 38	Linseed cakes, English	10½ 10½ 10s.
Large	46 48	Foreign	7½ 7½ 10s.
		Rapeseed cakes	5½ 5s. to 6½ 0s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, DEC. 5.

The proceedings presented but little of general interest. For Irish butter there was but a small demand; nothing but the finest and lowest qualities were sought after, and these kinds supported full rates. For Carlow from 76s. to 92s., Carrick 76s. to 84s., Waterford 68s. to 78s., Cork 78s. to 80s., Limerick 70s. to 74s., according to proportions and quality, landed. Foreign in short supply, and higher in value—Friesland 102s. to 106s., Kiel 100s. to 106s. Bacon has continued nearly stationary; prices from 36s. to 42s. landed, and 34s. to 40s. on board. Bale and tierce middles have been in limited sale, at 34s. to 38s. landed, and 32s. to 36s. on board. Lard at 50s. to 54s. on board, and 50s. to 58s. landed. Hams more inquired after, from 56s. to 70s. according to size and quality.

HOPS, BOROUGH, DEC. 5.

There is but little change to notice in hops, for which neither the speculative nor consumptive demand is at all brisk. It is remarked that there has seldom been so dull a market; and no change is anticipated until after Christmas.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Dec. 5.

The number of beasts was large, and there was a very sluggish inquiry for them; however, as the finest qualities were scarce, the prices of that description were maintained, but on other sorts a decline of about 2d. per 8lbs. was submitted to by the salesmen. In foreign nothing fresh was exhibited, there being only a few Spanish and Hamburg beasts brought forward, the refuse of last week's supply. The number of sheep was large, and the demand dull, and in most instances the prices were lower than last week, and several lots left the market unsold. The inquiry for veal was dull at drooping currencies.

	Beef	Mutton	Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).	Veal	Pork
	2s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.	3 0 to 4 4		3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.	3 10 to 4 8
Friday	486	2,750		160	317
Monday	3,987	31,740		93	431

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Dec. 5.

	Per 8lbs. by the carcass.	Inferior Mutton	3s. 0d. to 3s. 4d.
Inferior Beef	2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d.	Middling ditto	3 6 to 3 8
Middling ditto	2 10 to 3 0	Prime ditto	3 10 to 4 0
Prime large ditto	3 2 to 3 4	Veal	3 4 to 4 0
Prime small ditto	3 4 to 3 8	Small Pork	4 2 to 4 6
Large Pork	3 6 to 4 0		

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Dec. 5.

The arrivals for the past week are—from Yorkshire, 275 tons; Scotland, 110; Devon, 605; Kent, Essex, and Suffolk, 115; Jersey and Guernsey, 230; total, 1335 tons. York reds

Scotch ditto

Devons

COTTON, LIVERPOOL.

The animation noticed last week continued up to Tuesday, on which day an advance of ½d. per lb. was obtained, upon the prices of the preceding Friday; on Wednesday, however, a decline of ½d. per lb. was in some instances submitted to. On Thursday about 4,000 bales American were sold, but produced no advance in price, and the market closed on Saturday rather heavy. Egyptian and Maranham are ½d. per lb. higher, but Surat and other descriptions remain without change.

WOOL, DEC. 5.

The sales have been larger than previously, and prices have become firmer, though we cannot quote any general advance having taken place.

Down ewes and wethers 0s. 10d. to 0s. 10½d.

Down teggs

Half-bred wethers

Half-bred hogs

Flannel wool

Blanket wool

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Dec. 3.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow Hay

New ditto

Useful old ditto

Fine Upland and Rye Grass

COAL EXCHANGE, DEC. 5.

Caradoc, 21s. 9d.; Stewart's, 21s. 9d.; Hetton's, 21s. 3d.; Lambton's, 21s. 6d.—47 fresh ships.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, DEC. 6.

COFFEE.—The market was dull, but prices are not lower. A few small parcels only were sold by public auction. Good ordinary Ceylons are worth 62s. to 64s. per cwt. St Domingo and Brazil coffees, good or ordinary qualities will fetch from 31s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.

SUGAR.—The public sales consisted of 352 hogsheads and 118 barrels St Lucia. The finer sorts fetched full prices, the inferior qualities went 6d. to 1s. per cwt lower; good to fine yellow, 66s. to 70s.; ordinary to ordinary grey, 53s. to 57s.; low to fine brown, 53s. to 56s. In refined sugars there was not much doing, but prices are not lower. Standard lumps are quoted 74s. to 75s. per cwt, and bonded crushed, 26s. to 26s. 6d. per cwt.

TALLOW.—Prices are much the same; 48s. on the spot for best yellow candle, and 47s. 9d., to 48s. for delivery. There is a good supply of home tallow.

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